



ECHO IRELAND

Journal of the
Irish Radio Transmitters Society

October 2010



Dave Deane EI9FBB

**First EI to achieve
10 Band DXCC
160m to 6m**

Story on page 5

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News Bulletins and Readers

Sunday				
Dublin	1100	7.043	SSB	Sean EI7CD, Gerry EI8CC, Roland EI4GYB, Ger EI4GXB
Wicklow	1130	3.680	SSB	(as Gaeilge) Paddy EI7GK, Danny EI6GS
Dublin	1145	145.525	FM	Tony EI5EM, John EI7JG, Frank EI6EF, Liam EI3HK
Dublin	1200	3.650	SSB	As 1100
Mayo	2000	145.600	FM	John EI7IQ, Padraic EI9JA, Jimmy EI2GCB
Tipperary	2030	145.450	FM	Tommy EI2IT, John EI2JB, Andy EI5JF
Dublin	2130	145.525	FM	As 1145
Monday				
Cork	2000	145.750	FM	Vincent EI7HN
Limerick	2000	145.725	FM	Brian EI9AL, Simon EI7ALB, Gerry EI3JU, Ger EI4GXB
Louth	2000	145.675		Peter EI4HX, Thos EI2JD
Galway	2000	145.550		Steve EI5DD
Tuesday				
Waterford	2130	145.650	FM	Francis EI5GOB

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When is my membership due for renewal?

Your membership renewal date is shown on the wrapper in which the newsletter is posted – above the name and address. For those who receive Echo Ireland by electronic distribution, the renewal date is included in the email alert sent when a new issue is published. Members who pay by direct debit will see “(DD)” after the renewal date.

Use **www.irts.ie/renew** to renew your membership at any time; you can also renew at a Rally, or by sending your annual subscription directly to the IRTS Treasurer.

Please renew early to keep our postage and other costs down. Membership is extended by 12 months from the normal renewal date whenever a payment is received.

Joe Ryan, Membership Records Officer
memrecords@irts.ie

Silent Key

Ted Crowley EI3CY



As reported briefly in our August edition of Echo Ireland, Ted died on 30th July. Although in sufficiently good health to enjoy a holiday in France during the late Spring, he suffered a stroke on his return to Ireland and died within a few short weeks.

A large man, a big hearted man, an energetic and enthusiastic man but most of all, a Cork man, Ted had more careers than most of us have Sunday dinners. He approached each one with the same dedication, enthusiasm and commitment, and in most, achieved the same high level of success.

Born in rural East Cork in 1937 into a family of eight, Timothy Patrick as he was then known spent his early years "herding cattle and picking spuds". An early primary teacher called him "Tadgh", the Irish translation of Timothy, and this subsequently became Ted in English - a name that he carried with him for the remainder of his life.

Secondary school with the Christian Brothers meant a round-trip cycle of eighteen miles a day which he did for four years. However, he packed in secondary education just before Leaving

Cert. to enroll in the Cork Radio Telegraphy Institute and in 1956 at the age of 19 he became a Radio Officer in the British Merchant Navy.

In the years following, he travelled the world until he married in 1959 and took a "shore job" as a cameraman with the BBC TV.

Ted's experience with the BBC ideally qualified him for a position in RTE Television when it launched in 1961.

For the next twenty years he occupied a range of posts with RTE from cameraman to Assistant to the Director of Engineering. He was closely involved with "The Riordans" and was Chief Technical Director for the visit of Pope Paul II in 1979.

In 1981 he resigned from RTE and set up a company to undertake the design and manufacture of broadcast equipment for use by radio and television companies across the world.

This company proved to be very successful and through it, Ted again travelled the world assisting developing countries set up their own television and communication systems.

When he retired at 60, Ted began a new career as Writer, Historian, Artist, Photographer and general commentator on the vagaries of local life. As a resident of Greystones, he wrote regular pieces for the Wicklow Times but his by-line also graced a wide range of newspapers and magazines including Echo Ireland, Radcom and Practical Wireless.

Ted was a regular contributor of technical and humorous articles to Echo Ireland in recent years, the latest being

"Recessionary Radio" in the February 2010 edition.

This dealt with the construction of the Wheatstone Bridge and its use in resonating an antenna.

Holder of an amateur licence since the 1962, Ted was a CW-only man. As befitted a man of such technical competence, he built all his own equipment. When 136kHz was released for Amateur use, he was quick to build suitable equipment and in company with Finbar O'Connor EI0CF he blazed a trail for that band in EI.

The closure of the 500kHz Morse telegraphy service in December 1997 was a source of great regret to Ted and he was never slow to express his strongly held views on the subject. It was his intention to become active on the new 500kHz amateur band, but unfortunately the "Grim Reaper" stymied his intentions in this regard. In his later years, he continued his interest in the sea by monitoring the shipping lanes off the Wicklow coast from his home in Greystones.

The Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Greystones was packed for Ted's funeral on August 2nd. Among the attendance were figures from the various strands of life that Ted graced during his lifetime, among them the IRTS and Amateur Radio community led by Honorary Vice President Sean Nolan EI7CD.

To Ted's wife Ann, to his son Seamus, and his stepchildren Mary, Michael, Ann and Cathy as well as his extended family, we offer our sincerest sympathy

May he rest in peace.

Silent Key - Tom McCrossan EI7A

The death occurred in September of Thomas-Joseph (Tom) McCrossan of Main Street, Newtowncunningham, Donegal

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

Echo Ireland Input

All input for inclusion in Echo Ireland should be sent to:

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ei4bz@eircom.net 087-6290574

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Rathlin,
Kilcrohane,
Co. Cork.

ei8jk@amsat.org

Please do not mail cards to P.O. Box 462

Silent Key

Ken Dixon EI9AB Master Mariner



We are saddened to report the death of Ken Dixon EI9AB who passed away suddenly, at home on Tuesday October 5th 2010.

Ken lived in Crosshaven with his wife Clare EI7CW.

Ken was born on September 12th 1928 and he went to sea at age 15. He served as an apprentice deck officer with British Tankers, where he attained the rank of Chief Officer.

In 1952 he received his first callsign as G3IFY. He met Clare in 1948 and they married in 1953. Ken received his Irish callsign EI9AB in 1955.

He joined Irish Lights in 1958 for a short period and then spent some time with Irish Shipping before coming ashore to lecture in the Nautical College in Dun Laoghaire, until the College was transferred to Cork in 1975. This was also the year that Clare got her licence as EI7CW and they became the first married couple to hold EI Experimenters licences.

Ken took early retirement in 1988 to follow his lifelong dream to go sailing with Clare. They spent 12 years living and sailing (maritime mobile) in the Mediterranean on their yacht with almost daily bulletins back home to friends in EI. They were both very active on the Maritime Mobile net.

Ken was very involved in the Sea Scouts becoming Assistant Commissioner. He never forgot his first love of the sea and was always on hand to offer advice and assistance to fellow Hams and Mariners. He could often be seen adjusting compasses and navigation equipment aboard friends yachts in Crosshaven.

To his wife Clare EI7CW, his children Olwen, Brendan and Ethna as well as to his extended family we offer our sincerest sympathy on their loss. May he rest in peace.

IRTS Committee Meeting
Saturday November 27th
at 1100
Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise



AREN Training and Social Event

AREN announces the groups first ever weekend training and social event on Saturday and Sunday 13 and 14th of November.

The venue is on the shores of Lough Derg and this central picturesque location has been popular with other Voluntary Emergency Services for training and social activities.

Saturday's activities will include practical training and a taste of GlobalSET. It will wind down with a tour of the local RNLI station followed by dinner before moving on to the Whisky Still bar for 'craic agus ceoil' with local trad' musicians.

Attendees can arrive on Friday night or Saturday morning.

An afternoon finish on Sunday will ensure you are home early that evening.

Host Declan EI2GE has kindly arranged generous rates for accommodation and meals.

Full details will be circulated to members in due course.

Online Access to Echo Ireland

If you would like to have online access to the complete library of Echo Ireland issues from 2001 onwards and receive new issues of Echo Ireland by way of electronic download instead of in hard copy, please advise the Membership Records Officer.

Include your call sign and email address in the request and send it to:
memrecords@irts.ie

**Input for the Radio News and
Echo Ireland can be sent to:**
newsteam@irts.ie

Irish Amateur Television Club.

iatc.ie is the new Irish Amateur Television Club website which will be fully operational shortly. At present there are links to the old IATC site and repeater information from the Kells repeater site, which has links to all parts of EI on most modes. A fuller detailed account of all that is happening on the TV and repeater front will follow soon.

For further information email Ronnie at ei9ed@kells.ie or Charlie Lyons at ei2em@eircom.net



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James Holohan EI4HH
Peter Grant EI4HX
Stephen Wright EI5DD
Brendan Minish EI6IZ
Sean Nolan EI7CD
Joe Ryan EI7GY
Ger Gervin EI8CC
Charlie Carolan EI8JB
Pat O'Connor EI9HX

Cover Story - Dave Deane EI9FBB

Dave Deane EI9FBB appears on the cover of this issue to celebrate him being the first EI operator to achieve DXCC (that's 100 DX entities worked and confirmed) on 10 bands, that's the 9 HF bands and 6 metres.

All this was achieved in six years which is a remarkable achievement and its doubtful if it can be matched anywhere else in the world.

It takes one range of skills to work them all but another completely different range of skills to get the QSL cards.

Dave was active on radio from the age of 13, (working 141 countries on 11 metres) and he had sat and passed the experimenters theory examination in 1991 at age 16 having taken part in a theory course run by Cork Radio Club in Wilton Park House.

Among the instructors on that course were the late Fred Owens EI2EG, John O'Sullivan EI3EC and Finbarr EI1CS.

Others interests got priority during his late teenage years and he finally applied for and got issued with his licence in April 2004. He married Trish in August of the same year.

Co-incidentally, this was the year that Class B licence holders were granted full HF privileges and Dave had his first HF QSO with DD9ZZ on 20m phone in October and he had his first 100 countries worked five weeks later.

This was achieved from a far from ideal QTH in Dublin Hill on the north side of Cork City with a very small garden and a 220kV electricity line running overhead.

He started with a 20m dipole and an FT-77 and graduated to a half size G5RV for 40 metres and a TH3 Tribander on a scaffolding pole which completely dwarfed the garden. He must have had nice neighbours!

Twenty one months later on June 30th 2006 Dave had his hands on the certificates for his mixed, phone and 20 metres DXCCs.

It should have been sooner but the package of cards sent to ARRL applying for the awards went missing and Dave had to go to the trouble of getting duplicate cards and re-submitting. Not too many would have bothered!

This was achieved amazingly quickly and as a result of his bad experiences, Dave decided that a card checker for DXCC based in EI was a necessity. He volun-

teered his services and following a strict evaluation procedure was appointed the first EI based card checker by the ARRL.

On the same date he received his Worked All States certificate and before the end of 2006 he had his 15 metre DXCC and his Worked All Zones certificate.

Twelve months later saw the arrival of a 40 metres DXCC certificate and in February 2008 he got his CW and 17 metres certificates.

These were followed in May by certificates for 10 and 80 metres and the highly sought after 5 Band DXCC plaque.

It is interesting that Dave realised early in his operating career that the ability to work DX on CW was essential and he got stuck in and soon became comfortable in the pile ups using Morse Code. All his learning was done in his own shack, most of it on the air. This is the route also taken by several of the newer EI DXers currently active in the DXCC programme. It certainly works, all that's needed is the motivation and application.

30 metres is a CW and Date Modes only band and Dave got his DXCC here in June 2008. It was another fourteen months before the next large envelope from ARRL and this time it was a certificate for 12 metres.

This left only Top Band and Six metres and Dave concentrated on 160m over last winter. His QTH does not allow for an efficient aerial on Top Band and quite a few counties were worked by strapping the feeder of the 80 metre dipole. Portable operations were common in his drive for the magic 100 on Top Band and the certificate finally arrived in May of this year.

That was nine bands in the bag and Dave turned serious attention to Six Metre operation. He has a 5 element Yagi on the band and he has had an outstanding 2010 season winning this years CDXC 6m Challenge with 91 counties worked.

As a result, his 6 metre DXCC certificate is dated September 1st 2010.

He is only the fourth EI operator to attain this award.

So what's next? There's lots more to do. Dave is now second the John EI7BA on the DXCC Challenge table and he is hoping to break the 2000 band slots confirmed in the near future. Two of the leading UK DXers have over 3000 so



that's something to be aimed for.

Only seven EI operators have made the DXCC Honor Roll so that's also an obvious target.

The DXCC Honor Roll is earned by amateurs who submit confirmation for contacts reached within the numerical top 10 of the overall number of entities on the DXCC List. As of 13 Oct 2010, there were 338 current entities on the list, with 329 being required for the Honor Roll. The total number of counties should have changed by the time you read this.

Another much prized and difficult to achieve award is the 5 Band Worked All Zones run by CQ Magazine.

Dave only needs to work 5 zones on ten metres and is waiting on one card for 80 metres to wrap this one up.

Dave now lives in Farranree still on the North side of Cork City with XYL Trish and son Evan and daughter Megan.

His garden size is very restricted having only 110 feet from his chimney to the back wall of the garden which is only 17 feet wide.

He has an 80 metre dipole with drooping ends and a trapped dipole for 30 and 40 metres. He has a 5 band OBW10-5 Optibeam for the HF bands.

Dave's story shows that you do not need huge real estate and antenna farms to achieve success on the HF bands.

His 30 metres DXCC was worked on the 80 metre dipole and the 12 and 17 metres were achieved using an Antron 99 (a vertical for 11 metres).

Dave has of course been sharing his knowledge with us all in his HF Column in Echo Ireland.

We congratulate him and wish him well in his future endeavours.

Dave EI4BZ

Marconi and Ballybunion

Site of the first east to west trans-Atlantic radio telephony transmission

From Ballybunion was established the first wireless telephonic communication from east to west across the Atlantic in March 1919 using the call sign YXQ.

Communication was attempted in one direction only with the Sending Apparatus located at Ballybunion and the Receiving Apparatus at Louisburg, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Today, while nothing remains of the original station, local radio experimenters in conjunction with the local County Council, have erected a commemorative stone with plaque on part of the 72 acre site.

The Marconi Company chose Ballybunion, like Clifton and many other locations in Ireland, because of its flat land area, the nearest mountain area being twenty-five miles away, and because of its direct line to the USA.

The Company bought seventy-two acres of land from the landlord, Mr. George Hewson, and the construction work was begun in April 1912.

Material for the construction came by train from Listowel, some ten miles from the site, using the famous Lartigue Monorail to Ballybunion where it was then transported some 1000 yards by horse and dray to the station site.

The big engine for the power house, which came in sections, had to be brought by road, hauled by steam engine from Listowel because the Lartigue Monorail could not cope with the immense weight



Marconi Radio Station, Ballybunion — March, 1919.

and bulk of this engine. It took three weeks to travel the ten miles from Listowel to Ballybunion, and in places the road had to be steel-plated to cater for the load. The contractors of the station building were Humphrey's Limited of London, who employed over 100 people on site.

The aerial consisted of seven masts, the centre mast being 500 feet in height and the other six were 300 feet high. These were umbrella-shaped and worked well. At approximately eight o'clock one stormy evening, before completion of the centre mast, the wind caused this steel construction with supporting guy wires to collapse, pulling the guy wires from their housings. The noise of the carnage was heard for miles around!

power house and the transmitting station, situated about one quarter of a mile away to prevent noise interference. The workforce was paid in gold sovereigns, well remembered locally.

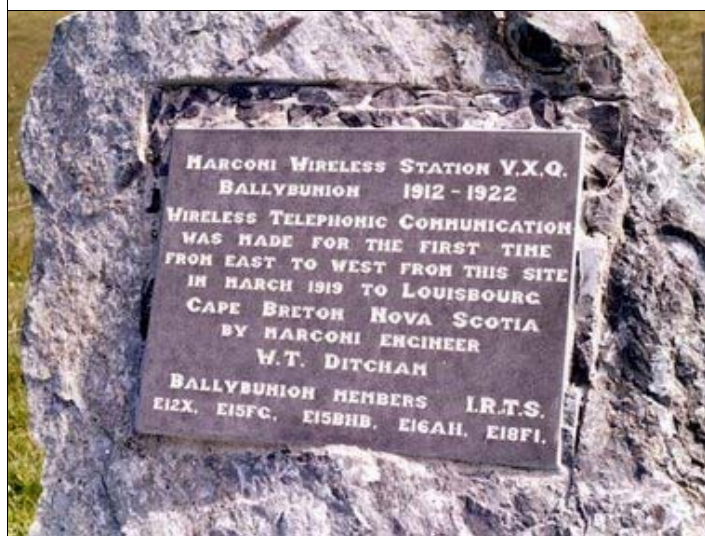
By 1914, the station was in full operation and was controlled during the period of the Great War by the Royal Navy who also trained some local young men as wireless operators in preparation for peacetime traffic from Ballybunion.

In 1918, after the end of the War, many experiments were conducted at Ballybunion to update equipment and in March 1919 the first telephony transmitter was installed using a power of 2.5 Kwatts. The first person to use the microphone from Ballybunion and be heard on the other side of the Atlantic in Nova Scotia, was Marconi engineer Mr. W.T.Ditcham. His voice was the first to be heard from Europe to America, and the wavelength was 3,800 Metres.

Communication was attempted in one direction only with the transmitter at Ballybunion and the receiver at Louisburg, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

The principal objective of the test was to prove that with the combination of the oscillating valve transmitter and the modern Marconi valve receiver, only a small amount of power was required to transmit telephonic or telegraphic messages across the Atlantic.

The second time, the mast was constructed of pine wood, as were the other six. This was a great achievement for one engineer and local labour. The base of the centre mast took 18 tons of concrete, and the others 15 tons each. The site also contained a miniature railway to transport materials between the



The tests also provided some data on what would be required for commercial operation over such a range. The objectives were successfully attained.

During its years of operation, Ballybunion had military protection by the Leinster Regiment, handling a lot of traffic - both civil and marine.

After the war it was to be used as a means of coastal communication with shipping etc, but owing to the Civil War in Ireland, it was decided to dismantle the station.

The young men who trained at Ballybunion got positions in wireless stations around the Irish coast, including Valencia; the newly-formed radio station 2RN in Dublin; PYE Ireland Limited etc. Some local men went to Rosyth in Scotland to re-install the big engine to supply power to a factory over there.

The station building was constructed with pine and unfortunately it burnt down many years ago.

The local Irish College, Collaiste Naomh Brendainn, now stands on the actual site of the Marconi Station House, and a housing development - appropriately named Marconi Avenue - has been erected on the site.

At the entrance to the site now stands a



Kevin EI8FI, Des EI5FG, John EI6AH

plaque in commemoration to this historic era in the development of radio communication.

In reminiscence, local people speak of the thud of the big flywheel and of the leather drive belts that flapped as they drove the generator. On clear, frosty nights the sound carried for miles.

The flywheel - 30 feet in diameter - was housed half underground.

The big engine was later replaced with a petrol driven generator which produced 12,000 volts for the new valves designed by the Marconi Company, known as the Type M.T.I and which were used for many of the experiments at Ballybunion. It is interesting to note that the signal from the station was heard very clearly via a small frame aerial 6 feet square using a Type 55 Receiver at Chelmsford and Louisburg.

A tribute perhaps to the success of the Ballybunion transmitter.

It should be clearly recognised that there was nothing "freakish" in the conduct of the tests carried out at Ballybunion. Every programme in each transmission experiment was carried out during the hours of daylight between 1000 and 1300. As the experiments mark an important stepping stone in the history of wireless communication, the Marconi Company placed on record the names of the engineers who were directly concerned in successfully carrying out the tests at Ballybunion.

They were Mr. W.T. Ditcham who was responsible for designing and installing the circuits and Mr. W.J. Picken who was in charge of the receiving apparatus at Louisburg, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Belated happy birthday wishes to EI6AH who was 86 on Sept. 17th last

Thanks to John J. O'Carroll EI6AH and Kieran O'Carroll EI5BHB who provided the material for this article.

*<http://vr2xbm.googlepages.com/home>
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John O'Carroll EI6AH



HF Happenings

with Dave Deane EI9FBB

Firstly, a big welcome to yet another issue of 'HF Happenings' and it's nice to be getting back into the swing of things after a rather dull and somewhat disappointing summer.

Anyone who has been active lately should have enjoyed one of the openings on the higher HF bands which are becoming pretty frequent once again (and not before time I hear you say)! 10m has seen some North American openings amongst the usual mixed bag of Europeans on Es while 12m has been open to pretty much anywhere at times. I mean, when is the last time you have heard ZS8M, ZD9, 8J1RL, KH2L, XW1B and the like on 12m?? Yes, it is now clear that we are finally out of a deep solar minimum and can look forward to a nice bright cycle 24.

Things can only get better from now on so..... expect the most!

Activity has certainly increased over the past few weeks across all bands and is most welcome. Many of the previously announced DXpeditions have come and gone while several are currently gracing the bands for the deserving. Several more have been announced for the coming winter season and will be covered below.

First off the mark is a press release (see opposite page) from Don G3XTT, (P.R. representative 5 star DXers Association).

Still in Kiribati but a different DXCC entity will be a multinational team operating from Central Kiribati in mid April 2011
T31A - Kanton Island -

An international team will activate Kanton Island for nine days starting mid April 2011. An additional day may be added depending on the sailing time to the island. Transportation has been arranged, all licenses are assigned and the permit is in its final stage of processing. There will be six stations, 160 through 10 (SSB/CW/RTTY). Keep your fingers crossed and an open eye on <http://www.t31a.com> for regular updates on this one. Let's hope this one materializes.

10-10-10. Any ideas folks? What are these mysterious numbers that have been floating around as of late? No, not some kind of CB radio talk or code words or the like, but rather more a specific important date for all DXers. The 10th October 2010 saw a major

changes to the DXCC status of several islands in the Caribbean. Many were uncertain of what impact these changes would cause and what effect it could have on the DXCC program.

Below is the official word on this and both IOTA & CQ magazine have made their press release too.

The dissolution of the Netherland Antilles has caused changes to the DXCC List. As per the DXCC rules, the two Netherland Antilles DXCC entities will be deleted and moved to the Deleted Entities List.

Four new entities will be added to the DXCC List:

- (1) Curaçao;
- (2) Sint Maarten;
- (3) Saba and St Eustatius,
- (4) Bonaire.

The event date and time for these changes will be 0400 UTC, October, 10 2010.

Confirmations for these new entities will be accepted for credit starting January 1, 2011.

Other administrative changes and actions will be announced as they are finalized.

Due to the much anticipate changes expected within the Netherland Antilles on October 10th the ARRL Awards Committee has established the two current PJ island groups (PJ2, 4, 9 - Bonaire/Curacao and PJ5-8 - St. Maarten, Saba, St. Eustatius) will be deleted from the ARRL DXCC list, effective at 0400Z on Sunday October 10th (not October 4th). This is midnight local time on the islands and this will be the first deletions since the DXCC 2000 rules were implemented in April 1998.

CQ DX Awards

Each of the five islands involved in the change of status retains its previous PJ callsign prefix (Curacao - PJ2; Bonaire - PJ4; St. Eustatius - PJ5; Saba - PJ6; and St. Maarten - PJ7). According to CQ DX Awards Manager Billy Williams, N4UF, the previous entities of the Leeward Islands (PJ2/PJ4) and Windward Islands (PJ5/PJ6/PJ7) Islands were deleted as of October 9, 2010.

Four new entities - Curacao (PJ2), St. Maarten (PJ7), Bonaire (PJ4) and Saba/St. Eustatius (PJ5/6) - became active on October 10, for a net gain of two DX entities. Confirmations for contacts made

with the new entities will be accepted for CQ award credit effective immediately.

New IOTA Group Announced

Following ARRL's announcement of four new DXCC entities in the former Netherlands Antilles we can now announce IOTA's position.

Curacao will, in accordance with IOTA rule E.5.5 (Island DXCC entity group), become a new IOTA group with the reference number SA-099, operative from 0400 UTC, 10 October 2010.

Contacts made prior to that time/date will continue to count for SA-006.

Bonaire remains as a valid island within SA-006, so its IOTA status will not change.

There will also be no IOTA group number change to **Sint Maarten** NA-105 or Saba and **Sint Eustatius** NA-145, islands split from each other long ago in accordance with IOTA rules.

Perhaps the list compiled below will put all this information into better perspective and may be a good source of reference for anyone wishing to update their logging software etc.

DXCC Entity: Curacao

Current Prefix: PJ2

CQ Zone: 9

ITU Zone: 11

Start Date: 04:00Z, October 10, 2010

QSL Bureau: Yes

UTC Offset: 4 hours behind UTC

IOTA: SA-099

(Note: Changed from SA-006)

Continent: South America

Longitude: 68 56' West

Latitude: 12 06' North

Capital: Willemstad

DXCC Entity #: 517

DXCC Entity: Bonaire

Current Prefix: PJ4

CQ Zone: 9

ITU Zone: 11

Start Date: 04:00Z, October 10, 2010

QSL Bureau: Unknown

UTC Offset: 4 hours behind UTC

IOTA: SA-006 (Unchanged)

Continent: South America

Longitude: 68 16' West

Latitude: 12 09' North

Capital: Kralendijk

DXCC Entity #: 520

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T32 - Press Release By G3XTT, Don Field, FSDXA Publicity Officer

The Five Star DXers Association (FSDXA) is pleased to announce its next DXpedition, to Kiritimati (also known as Christmas Island, T32) to take place in September/October 2011. FSDXA, closely linked to CDXC (Chiltern DX Club), the UK DX Foundation, is the group which brought you the 1998 9M0C Spratly Islands DXpedition, the record-breaking 2001 D68C DXpedition to the Comoros and, subsequently, the 2004 3B9C Rodrigues and 2007 3B7C St. Brandon DXpeditions.

Once again, Yaesu have kindly agreed to be Global Sponsor, and will be providing sixteen FT-5000 transceivers along with a similar number of Quadra VL-1000 linears.

UK amateur radio retailers Martyn Lynch & Sons and Nevada are also committed to sponsoring the operation.

It is hoped that the callsign T32C will be allocated. The "C" in the callsign stands for "CDXC", the club from which the Five Star DXers Association was formed, and is also a reminder of the group's previous successful operations.

As with previous FSDXA expeditions, this will be a major effort, with a target of more than 150,000 QSOs. There will be up to sixteen stations on the air, using amplifiers along with monoband beams and vertical dipole arrays, 24 hours a day, for almost four weeks, including four weekends, around the autumn equinox when DX propagation on all bands is typically at its best. Our primary objective is to activate Christmas Island T32 with a view to giving as many DXers as possible a first contact with this rare DXCC entity and, as a secondary objective, to give as many band-slots as possible.

While many experienced DXers have one or two contacts with Christmas Island, our focus, in addition to, making Christmas Island available to less well-equipped DXers, especially in Europe and the US East Coast, both of which are tough paths from the mid-Pacific, will be to help fill those missing band and mode slots, especially on LF and on RTTY.

Club Log shows Kiritimati as 36th most wanted DXCC entity by European operators and 61st most wanted worldwide. It is even more sought after on the LF bands.

A large number of amateurs from 13 different DXCC entities have already signed up for T32C, some for half the overall period, some for the whole operation. There will be 30 operators on site at any one time. Operator numbers have been determined to ensure that a full complement of stations can be manned whenever bands are open. Many of

these operators have been with us before. All bring experience not only of operating (usually multiple modes, often with a contesting background) but in terms of other essential skills. For example, we will have two medical specialists, antenna, RF and software specialists, and a range of other skills which will be essential in mounting a major operation so far from logistical support.

At the time of writing, the team is expected to consist of 40 operators including: Falk DK7YY, Jens DL7AKC, **Paul EI5DI**, **Dave EI9FBB**, Gerard F2JD, Ian F5VKT/G3YBY, Michel FM5CD, Vincent G0LMX, Tony G0OPB, Nobby G0VJG, Don G3BJ, Neville G3NUG, Chris G3SVL, David G3UNA, Gordon G3USR, John G3WGV, Mike G3WPH, Don G3XTT, Mark G4AXX, John G4DRS, Nick G4FAL, Mike G4IUF, Justin G4TSH, Michael G7VJR, Clive GM3POI, Bob GU4YOX, Kazu JA1RJU, Jim KF7E, Bob MD0CCE, Bill N2WB, Arnie N6HC, Bob N6OX, Ronald PA3EWP, Pete SM5GMZ, Maury W3EF, Paul WF5T and Jay WX0B.

It is also planned to take a young amateur, to gain valuable DXpedition experience, and sponsorship is already on hand to make this possible.

At this time we are seeking contributions from sponsors to help defray the very significant logistics costs of this DXpedition. For example, there is limited electricity on the island so generators will have to be shipped. Most equipment has to be shipped by container via Tarawa.

The team will then fly out to Christmas via Honolulu. All team members will be covering their own travel costs and accommodation on the island, and making a contribution to other (mainly logistics) costs, but there will still be a significant shortfall.

Details of how to donate appear on our website (www.t32c.com) which is now live. PayPal donations may be made directly via the site.

All donations will be acknowledged.

The logos of all DX clubs etc which have helped to sponsor the DXpedition will be shown on the QSL card, as will the names and callsigns of those who make an individual contribution in advance of the DXpedition (subject, in each case, to a certain minimum amount).

This first Bulletin is intended mainly to alert you to our upcoming DXpedition. More information will be forthcoming in due course, and will be posted on our website (www.t32c.com) as it becomes available.

DXCC Entity: Sint Maarten
Current Prefix: PJ7

CQ Zone: 8

ITU Zone: 11

Start Date: 0400Z, Oct. 10, 2010

QSL Bureau: Unknown

UTC Offset: 4 hours behind UTC

IOTA: NA-105 (Unchanged)

Continent: North America

Longitude: 63 02' West

Latitude: 18 01' North

Capital: Philipsburg

DXCC Entity #: 518

DXCC Entity: St. Eustatius & Saba

Current Prefix: PJ5, PJ6

CQ Zone: 8

ITU Zone: 11

Start Date: 04:00Z, Oct. 10, 2010

QSL Bureau: Unknown

UTC Offset: 4 hours behind UTC

IOTA: NA-145 (Unchanged)

Continent: North America

Longitude: 62 59' West

Latitude: 17 29' North

Capitals: Oranjestad, The Bottom

DXCC Entity #: 519

JF1OCQ (ZL1WY, W1VX), Hiro, is heading back to **Chatham Island (OC-038)**. Plans are to be QRV as ZL1WY/ZL7 from December 2nd to 9th.

Activity will be on CW, SSB and the digital modes on 1.8 through 50 MHz, with an emphasis on Top-band and the Magic Band. He will have a breakable beacon QRV "around the clock" on 50.117 MHz. QSL via JF1OCQ.

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Independence of the **Democratic Republic of Congo** a team of mostly Belgians and one Dutch will be QRV as 9Q50ON from the DRC December 3rd to 12th. The group includes ON4HIL, ON4ATW, ON6CC, ON4IA, ON4CIT and PA3EWP.

Looks like they will have three complete stations with antennas for 1.8 through 50 MHz with activity on CW and SSB. They have a Web site at <http://www.9q50on.be/>. QSL via ON4BR.

A group of operators plan to go to **Niue, ZK2, and Norfolk, VK9N**, hoping to break 35,000 QSOs. They plan to focus on Europe QSOs, and lower bands to all areas of the world, CW and RTTY. It is

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the sixth Pacific DXpedition for this group with operators IK1PMR, K2LEO/PA3LEO, LA9SN, K6SRZ, N6TQS and YU3AA going this time.

ZK2 is rare on several bands and modes in Europe despite previous activations, they say. Most of those were one-man operations. They will be on Niue two weeks, November 20-December 3, including the CQWW CW Contest. The callsign, ZK2A, is unofficially confirmed by email exchanges. They will be staying in the "Namukulu cottages."

For **Norfolk Island**, they will be there the two weeks after ZK2, December 5-19, staying at the "Pacific Palms." They have requested the callsign VK9NN but do not have it confirmed yet.

This is a lightweight DXpedition with an effort to limit extra baggage charges, so most of the antennas will be wires. Hams in Los Angeles, California are helping with logistics. After the operation, any excess gear may be left with friends in New Zealand.

In addition to the focus on low bands, the group will be on all the others too, 160-10 and possibly 6m, decided upon daily based on operator preferences and conditions. DX propagation is limited at local midday so they plan to have team meetings at lunch daily.
<http://ik1pmr.com/pacific-2010/>.

As mentioned earlier, **ZD9** is presently QRV at the moment after a few years of zero activity. As 'ol Murphy would have it, there will be several different callsigns from this rare one for the next few months.

Currently, Uli, DL2AH who maybe better remembered as ZK3AH, A35AH, AH8/DL2AH, CE0Z/DL2AH, VK9ANH, 3D2AH etc. is now QRV from **Tristan da Cunha** and is creating quite a stir on the bands. So far he has been active on SSB only although he does plan to operate some DIGI before he goes QRT on December 6th.

Uli is running 100W into a dipole antenna and although this may not be much, he is and has been worked in EI on several bands so keep listening!

Uli apologises in advance for any delay in processing QSL card requests as he can only answer these in January when he returns to Germany.

Pse QSL via direct or buro to DL2AH.

Another German, DJ2EH Dieter, will be also visiting **ZD9, Tristan da Cunha Island**. Dieter, who goes by Dick on the air, will operate between November 20 and December 8, if the vessel is on time. He will get his callsign once he arrives on the island.

Dieter leaves Germany on British Airways on November 10th, then departs Cape Town, South Africa, November 13 for the six to seven-day voyage to Tristan. If the weather is not too bad, he says, he will put up a 73-foot-tall vertical that will cover 160, 80, 40 and 30m, and a three-element wire beam.

His rig will be a K3 to an 800-watt amplifier. Dieter plans to operate on CW, SSB and RTTY. It will be a solo operation for Dieter; his wife, DL8NBH, already took her vacation time for this year and they went to C21 and VK in the spring, so she will not be along on the trip.

A retired friend who was planning to go along to ZD9 had to cancel. QSL via homecall.

ZS1LF (ZR1JON), John, landed on **Gough Island** on September 16th, along with a host of scientists. John and his team of eight will remain, while the others depart in about two weeks. He hopes to begin his **ZD9GI** activity on the air in about four weeks. John and QSL manager ZS1A, Johan, ran some test with good signals on 40 and 20 meters.

"The antennas tested very well from 80m to 10m but he will have to make another for 160m", says Johan. John is expected to be on Gough Island for a one year work assignment as the team leader and radio technician. He is brand new to HF and has no experience on HF with plans to be QRV in his spare time. His station consists of a TS-480, an amplifier and dipoles.

And, if by some freak chance that you miss all of these 3 operations don't despair. Rumour has it that yet another operation will be taking place from Gough Island next spring and will have a strong empathises towards these Western Isles. Hmmm, any ideas yet?? Stay tuned.

Despite a lack of recent announcements and press releases, the much anticipated trip to **Kermadec (Raoul Island)** is still well under way and should be QRV from 18th November to 6th December '10.

The following has been taken from their website <http://www.kermadec.de>

Some time has gone since the last news. But meanwhile we were not inactive, a lot of things happened.

Of course last activities concentrated around packing our equipment for shipment by sea cargo. Over half of the team met on the last weekend in July at the QTH of DR1A where we collected all the material.

Even our last minute action, the 5 monobanders for 20m to 10m, arrived just in time to get packed.

The Spiderbeam team (Con, DF4SA and Andy, DL9USA) and our team member Andy, DL5CW, did a great job to complete 5 sets of monobanders including new designed boom segments and wire elements.

The two Andy's spent at least two weekends to cut all the wires, to prepare the segments and to assemble all antennas to check for VSWR and radiation pattern. Thank you very much for your efforts!

Before everything could be packed into dedicated boxes it had to be checked. Some cables were prepared, new boxes for the GFK mast, aluminium tubes and monobander accessories were made, amplifiers were tested and every piece of stuff found its place in the boxes.

Heavy cables and antenna accessories went into Big Boxes, GFK mast and aluminium tubes were put into orange drain pipes and electronic equipment and coax cable were packed safely into the watertight and robust Peli cases.

Of course most of the equipment was available from our last DXpedition to Willis Island (VK9DWX) but nevertheless we nearly doubled the weight of cargo this time! At the end of the weekend we had 2.5 tons of material packed and ready to be shipped to New Zealand.



The Daily DX - is a text DX bulletin that can be sent via e-mail to your home or office Monday through Friday and includes DX news, IOTA news, QSN reports, QSL information, a DX Calendar, propagation forecast and much, much more. With a subscription to The Daily DX you will also receive DX news flashes and other interesting DX tidbits. Subscriptions are \$49.00 for one year or \$28.00 for 6 months.

Get a free two weeks of The Daily DX or a free sample of The Weekly DX by sending a request to bernie@dailydx.com.

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Here's hoping for good conditions for this timeframe, 20, 30 & 40m are the preferred bands for this one. Good luck to all.

Raoul Island was last activated in October 2006 when our own Declan EI6FR was an operator of the ZL8R Microlite DXpedition team.

So now folks, that's about all for this issue, I wish you all well in your hunt to fulfill as many band / mode slots as possible with these new Dutch entities and the like.

Remember CQWW SSB on the last weekend of October this year might be a good source for some of these.

Conditions are on the incline so 10m might be a productive band in this years contest and could even be a favorable band to try chasing some of the announced DXpeditions.

I've yet to experience a good 10m opening so maybe this season could be the one.

Can any EI records be broken or any new records be set even?

Good luck to all and until next issue, good DX.

Thanks to Don, G3XTT and to Bernie, W3UR of the Daily DX for allowing information to be extracted for these pages.

Vy 73 de Dave EI9FBB

ARRL'S Logbook of the World 300 Million QSOS and counting!

Congratulations to Victor Morozov, RD3PQ, for submitting QSO number 300 million to the ARRL Logbook of The World (LoTW)!

His QSO with Ivan Gombos, SV2/OM3CGN, on October 5, 2010 did the trick. To date, Morozov has submitted nearly 6300 contacts to LoTW and will receive free DXCC and Worked All States awards for his well-placed log.

"We're very pleased with the high level of use and acceptance of LoTW from operators around the world," said ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N.

"January 2011 marks the 10 year anniversary of the ARRL's announcement of the LoTW system. While it has taken longer than anyone expected to return to building-out the system, progress is being made.

ARRL's programmers are working hard to improve usability and to add support for the VUCC award, and we have received valuable assistance from volunteers in the development of the system and software."

Read more here <<http://www.arrl.org/news/logbook-of-the-world-300-million-qsos-and-counting>>

Michael Wright EI2DJ Retires from RTE



Michael Wright EI2DJ (seated) with colleagues from RTE Radio One.

Michael Wright EI2DJ retired from RTE Radio on Friday 16th April last.

He joined RTE in 1979 and worked on such great things as the launch of Radio 2 (now 2FM), the Papal visit, Election Specials both North and South, numerous BBC productions including Radio 4's "Today" and "PM" programmes and, from its first week in 1984, many hundreds of editions of Morning Ireland on RTE Radio One.

Michael's interest in amateur radio goes back to his schooldays and he is still active today and is well known for his involvement with the RTE Radio Club in the provision of several repeaters on the East coast.

His involvement with commercial radio began after leaving school as a technician with Pye (Ireland) in Dublin. His interest in broadcast radio was prompted by trying to receive Radio Caroline which was broadcasting all day pop music from a ship anchored off the coast of Essex.

The "original" Caroline sailed to the Isle of Man and became Radio Caroline North and Atlanta became Radio Caroline South. Now everybody in the UK and Ireland with a transistor could enjoy the music. In 1966, Michael was lucky enough to get a job as a Broadcast Engineer with the station and it was his duty to keep the station on air come hell or high water!

And all this at the grand old age of 22. His boss, the Irishman Ronan O'Rahilly, had founded Radio Caroline when he was only 24. Although the station lasted only four years, it changed the entire face of broadcasting in Europe. Michael was there for half of its lifetime and is very proud to have been a part of it. It was the greatest job anyone could wish for. Sadly, all good things must come to an end and, due to legislation, the station closed in 1968

We wish Michael and XYL Karen, EI2DW a long and happy retirement.

Source: www.rte.ie

The Amateur Portable Group EI0Z

St. John's Point Lighthouse



On Sunday 21st August 2010, three eager amateurs, Charlie EI8JB, John EI6GHB and David EI7GEB were up before sunrise to make the long trip from County Meath across the country to County Donegal to activate the Saint John's Point lighthouse on the south Donegal coast as part of the international lighthouse/lightship weekend.

With the plans made and the waiting over, they departed historic Slane in the royal county of Meath at 0600 for the expected three hour journey to Donegal, double checking as they went to make sure all the gear needed was packed, flasks, coffee, tea, sandwiches and of course some radio gear. On the journey the weather did not look great, but they did not care, they were going to activate their first lighthouse.

Over half way there, and they had to make an emergency stop as they needed caffeine. Regenerated, they carried on and arriving earlier than planned they discovered what a beautiful place Saint Johns Point is and it has a lighthouse.

Saint Johns Point is also one of Irelands premier scuba diving sites.

Setting up the antennas surrounded by cows, bulls and divers was to say the least "interesting".

Once set up and on the air operating the 80, 40, 20 and 17m bands both voice and digi modes, they could sit back and enjoy the glorious sunshine with the temperature at twenty plus degrees.

However, the bands overall were disappointing.

They did manage to work EI5GVB/p Tim on several bands, but were not able to hear EI4LRC from Tarbert Island at all. At the end of a long day and just as the rain began to fall they packed the gear and headed home.

On the long journey home they discussed the days activities and the enjoyment of the hobby and discussed the formation of a portable event group.

Since then, a new group has been formed called the Amateur Portable Group, callsign EI0Z, contact & QSL to Charlie EI8JB QTHR.



EI7GEB



EI8JB



EI6GHB

Loughcrew Cairns

On Tuesday 21st September, the Amateur Portable Group (EI0Z) were up early again, this time meeting in the car park of the Loughcrew Cairns at 0500 to set about planning their ascent of what they believe is the highest hill in County Meath.

Conditions on the morning were extremely foggy, after a long twenty minutes hauling a battery and gear and some very deep breaths they arrived at the summit.

Visibility was nil and they pondered on what the bands would be like. They were joined soon after by a man from RTE and his camera, who was hoping the fog would clear to justify his climb,

The equipment used on the day was an Arrow antenna and handheld for the satellite work and a 6m fishing pole antenna and Yaesu FT-897, with of course the trusty battery.

The activation was on Slieve na Caillighe, the Loughcrew Cairns, which is a five thousand year old monument.

This was the autumn equinox and also qualified for S.O.T.A. (Summits on the air) as a first activation and W.A.I. (Worked All Ireland Award Scheme)

The bands worked on HF were 40, 20 and 17 metres and satellites AO51 and AO27. Many people arrived up for the equinox in the hope that the fog would clear before sunrise, only to be disappointed, but they did have a sideshow "us", we had a lot of enquiries from tourists and locals about what we were doing and what was "amateur/ham radio"

A lot of photo's were taken including one for a Spanish travel guide. The fog finally cleared about 1100 and the bands began to open with contacts being made into New Zealand, Morocco, Cuba and a Japanese pileup and of course all of Europe and the UK. Three EI's made it through as well, EI9JN Tony in Dublin, EI5KB Aidan in Leitrim and EI3GYB Michael in Mayo and to them thanks are expressed for their patience.

The Group would also like to thank the staff at the Cairns for their welcome and support.

The Loughcrew Cairns are well worth a visit if you've never been there before, and its free.



Charlie EI8JB, John EI6GHB and David EI7GEB



EI5GM, EI8DD, EI8IU, EI9CN, EI9HX, EI3HA & EI2HG



EI6DL



EI3HA & EI6GGB

SSB Field Day 2010 at Garbally College, Ballinasloe



EI8DD, EI7DMB, EI9CN



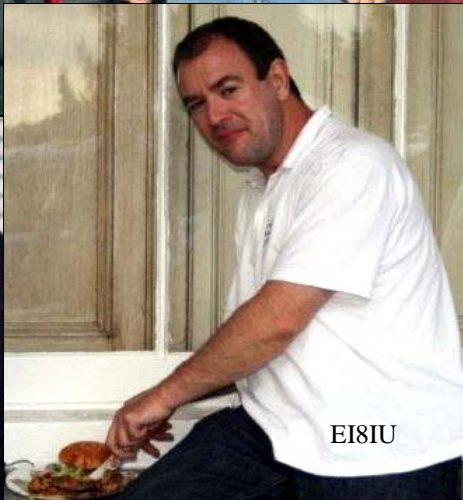
EI5GM & EI9FBB



EI9HX



EI7DMB



EI8IU



EI2II and Stephanie



Above the Horizon

with Charlie Carolan EI8JB

Welcome to this current issue of ATH. I have had some queries in relation to time differences using programs and websites and some discrepancies that happen when comparing one method against the other.

While the AMSAT.org website would be assumed to be up to date with pass times and tracking etc, one must pay attention to the time displayed as it appears with AMSAT in GMT, although we will be back on track with this soon there has been a time difference of 1 hour since the clocks changed earlier this year.

Also in relation to the AMSAT pass time schedule there have been some questions about the abbreviations of AOS & LOS. These are the Acquisition of Satellite above your Horizon and Loss of Satellite below your Horizon, the time difference between the AOS and LOS will be the duration of that particular pass.

In comparison between the AMSAT pass schedule and other methods of tracking pass times there may be a slight time deviation. There are a couple of reasons for this, the main one being that one method is set to reject satellites below a certain angle above your horizon. Some programs like Orbitron when tracking allow you to only display satellite passes that you have a chance to work/copy and this is user defined on the tracking setup. Unlike AMSAT which will only display a single satellite pass schedule, Orbitron allows multiple satellites to be displayed and these can even be printed for record or reference. Orbitron also has an alarm to sound when your location is within a particular satellites footprint.

The alarm is very useful as you can go about your life or work on other bands etc and you get alerted so you are ready for action.

In last issue we had some developments mentioned with various birds (Satellites) and we will continue with this in this issue as AO-51 has had its software reloaded and I have received some additional information from Doug KD8CAO who is one of the ground control stations for AO-51 and various other Satellites.

AO-51

After a software crash on September 26 aboard the amateur radio satellite **AO-51** which took it off the air, Ground Station Mark Hammond, N8MH reported that as of September 29, the reloading of AO-51 is complete

Some of you who may have noticed an additional second mode published for recent pass schedules. I have had the following information from one of the Control Stations.

"The workload has been light for the team over the past few months due to a lack of sufficient power budget (eclipse period) to do much else than run the voice repeater for users. This of course has changed recently and we have a brief period of full sun that will allow us to resume use of some of AO-51's more advanced modes.

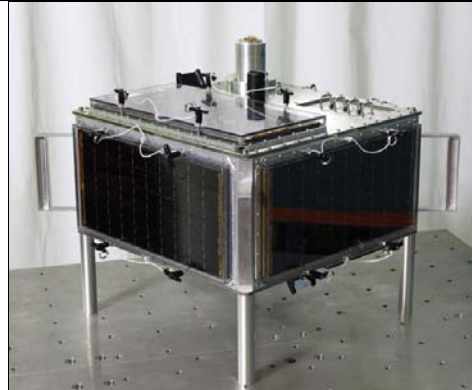
The satellite itself is very flexible. It has two UHF transmitters (TXA and TXB) and one S-band transmitter.

TXB is the transmitter used for the normal V/U voice repeater, the downlink as you know is on 435.300+/- and has RHCP sense.

TXA is normally used for telemetry/data and is on 435.150+/-, the Tx antenna is LHCP. (read some more about AO-51's antenna receive antennas at URL: <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/echo/EchoFAQ.php>--not real up-to-date, but informative)

In addition, AO-51 has 4 VHF receivers and a SQRX multiband receiver. The SQRX provides receive capability from 10MHz -1.3GHz. The SQRX is used for L-band uplink modes.. The satellite has in addition to the 2 UHF antennas for TXA and TXB, one 18" VHF/multiband whip for receive and a L/S-band antenna for receive and transmit respectively.

When the schedule indicates two modes the satellite will be configured to provide both modes of operation simultaneously. Not all combinations are possible and the power budget limits the ability to run certain configurations, but as mentioned the satellite is very flexible and has the capability to have two repeaters on at the same time. Note the schedule's "(early UTC)" designator is meant to indicate that an AO-51 command station will re-



Amsat ARISSat1

configure the satellite sometime in the early UTC time period. This is typically done on the east pass over the USA, as the primary command stations are on the east coast (North Carolina and Florida).

For those of you that don't have L-band transmit capability, it is suggested to try to take the opportunity to listen to the downlink on 435.150+/- during the period we are running L/U--this will give you an opportunity to hear the level of activity within your region.

Here in the USA, these advance modes are used, but the number of users with capable ground stations is significantly less than those who operate mode V/U. L and S-band operations allow for longer conversations & less competition for air time."

HO-68 Activity

Recently there has been an increase in usage for the amateur radio community of the HO-68 operational schedule. The communication payload includes a CW beacon and transponders for SSB/CW, FM and digital AX.25 packet operation. The linear transponder, used for SSB and CW working, has a bandwidth of 50 kHz which allows about 10-15 simultaneous contacts to take place and can sound like the 20 meter band.

Due to Doppler shift the CW beacon can appear to be up to +/- 9 kHz from its nominal frequency of 435.790 MHz and you need to tune your receiver to follow it during the pass. The beacon has been received on simple antennas such as a 1/4 wave ground plane but for best results a small handheld Yagi will do just fine..

To reduce the effects of Doppler the SSB

transponder is inverting. This means that a LSB signal on the uplink becomes a USB signal on the downlink. You don't need much power to work through the satellite, many contacts have been made using 5 watts output. Always use the lowest power possible and ensure your downlink signal is never stronger than the beacon.

ARRISat-1 (formerly Suit Sat) Irish Students Project set for Launch!!

In October last year the IRTS news carried an item from Amsat inviting teachers to submit students' science work to be considered for carrying on board the next satellite to be launched later this year.

Pádraig EI7GK, a science teacher in Gaelcholáiste na Mara, Arklow, submitted work from 6 of his students. All have been selected and their work will "fly" on board the satellite.

Gaelcholáiste na Mara is the only school in EI to be selected. Other schools selected are in the U.S., Canada, UK etc. In Gaelcholáiste na Mara all subjects including science are thought through Irish so an English translation had to accompany the original work. Below is the update on this project.

AMSAT ARISSat Project Manager, Gould Smith, WA4SXM reported, "This was an important week for the ARISSat program. The ARISSat-1/RadioSkaf V satellite passed the vibration tests." ARISSat-1/RadioSkaf V, was shipped from Orlando, Florida to the Johnson Space Center in Houston. From there it will be sent to Russia in early October. In Russia it will have the Kursk experiment added (the aluminum cylinder on the top of the spacecraft is a mass mock-up used for vibration testing) and additional testing.

The next milestone, the NASA Phase 2 Safety Review, is scheduled for October 13 & 14, 2010. The ARISSat-1 team says that actually two satellites (flight and backup) are ready for the trip to Russia.

A new Russian Orlan suit battery will be shipped to the ISS separately to be installed into the satellite (called the Amateur Radio Experiment) onboard the ISS.

ARRISat-1 is scheduled to be sent to the ISS aboard Russian Progress vehicle 41P in January 2011 and deployed during EVA R-28 in February 2011.

HO-68 Frequencies are as follows:

Mode	Uplink MHz	Downlink MHz
CW Beacon		435.790
SSB / CW	145.925-145.975	435.765-435.715
FM (67Hz CTCSS)	145.825	435.675
AX.25 1200bps AFSK	145.825	435.675

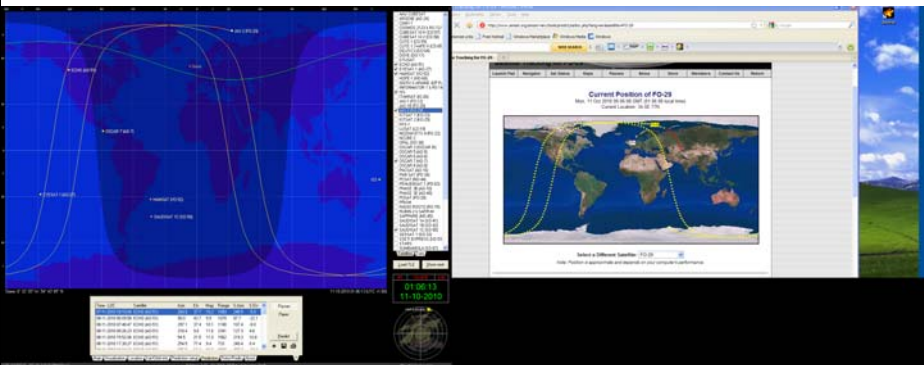
Below are some examples of dual screen captures of FO-29 at EI8JB's QTH



Screenshots above shows Ham Radio Deluxe HRD and its satellite tracking add on option on the left and SatPC 32 on the right. Both software packages show FO-29's footprint and can be downloaded as demos to see what works best for you.

Ham Radio Deluxe is very popular for satellites and is free in a beta download, with built in satellite audio announcements.

Like anything there are lots of options and tools to use, the trick is finding the one that's best and easier for you.



Screenshots show the Orbiron tracking software package with multiple user defined satellites on screen with built in alarms and to the right is the current location of FO-29 on AMSAT. All screenshots show live tracking of FO-29.

Radio News Deadline - Noon on Thursdays
News Editor: Charlie Carolan EI8JB

News input to:
charlie.carolan@gmail.com or newsteam@irts.ie
Telephone 087-6265418

SSB Field day 2010

Galway VHF Group

EI4ALE/P

The decision to enter HF SSB field day was very much last minute. None of the Galway VHF Group members had entered a contest for years so enthusiasm was not a major player here. Four of the Group rose to the challenge. We had the tent, we all had a portable stations which were either used on AREN operations or some of our many activations. The formula was there. It was going to be minimalist station and also there was no doubt that it would conform to the Restricted Section of NFD. It came down to the choice between the Icom 706MkII or the Yaesu FT897D. The FT897D has always been all gain and loads of noise yet reasonably good for portable work. By comparison, the Icom 706 MKII was quieter, the DSP worked well and it had a nicer feel to it. The Heil headset was used in conjunction with a Behringer microphone pre-amplifier and equaliser. The old Icom was going to sound good if nothing else!

The next item under discussion was the antenna. We generally use a top-band or 80 metre doublet fed with open wire feeder and tune it for all bands. One can't go wrong with this arrangement. The use of a G5RV was muted and shot down immediately. The "Windom" was another antenna that often brought about disparaging remarks because it never really seemed to pull in contacts for another group. Just because it was offset fed didn't mean it wouldn't work.

Antenna modelling and many articles showed that, in theory, it should work well except maybe on 15 metres. This antenna was hoisted and tests were made using the MFJ antenna analyser and, surprisingly enough, it was as good as described. Any minor mismatch could be tuned out with an auto ATU or an Armstrong (manual) ATU. We decided to run with it.

We were fortunate that Enda, EI3IS, had access to land in the Monivea/Athenry area and there were plenty of locations to choose from without having to trek too far. All of the locations had trees and one area in particular was sheltered from the weather and had the perfect antenna orientation for the contest; not that this probably mattered with a height of only

30 feet and probably absorption of signal in the trees and growth in the area. There was a good solid wall, close by, behind which we could locate the generator and minimise the noise. Unlike many areas in Galway, we could get a good distance into the ground with earth rods for both the generator and the station.

Saturday was perfect in every way as there was sunshine and although there had been rain the night before the ground was dry. The antenna went up a dream and with coax already attached it was just a case of cutting the coax with a little to spare and soldering a plug on the end. Aldi tents are huge and a dream to put up. We seldom use the inner section as we were not going to sleep in the operating tent. The portable station was already in a rack system and lifted out of the vehicle and plonked on the table. A MFJ auto tuner was used and a spare SWR bridge on hand also. The generator was 2.5 KVA Honda which powered the rig and lights and we also had plenty battery back up just to be on the safe side. Superfluous equipment inside the tent was kept to a minimum as there is nothing worse than tripping over equipment or boxes that have no useful function.

Initial tests, saw 20 metres reasonably quiet with the usual scattering of Europeans and an occasional American station. The antenna was tuning well and the Auto ATU tuned out the miss-match on 15 metres. At the appointed hour 20 metres changed from a relaxed area to wall of activity that developed in seconds. The SD program was proving its worth and there was a check-logger present to assist if anything was missed. Not being accustomed to this style of operating meant that practices had to be established between operator and check-logger and this didn't take too long. Gerry EI8DRB was first in the hot seat with Steve EI5DD as a check-logger. A steady flow was generated and there was a hard choice to make between occupying a frequency and being a "searcher/pouncer".



Gerry EI8DRB operating, John EI1EM Check-logging and Alan EI7GWB in background

Low power is not conducive with occupation of a frequency. It is not too long before the boys in the open section let you know where your place is in the contest. We were sat upon! It was therefore decided that a bit of both would happen. During the steady flow of operation it was nice to see the QSO's per hour working on the program along with a tally of the score so far and the multipliers and dupe's in the window.

The two that were not operating stayed well away from the operation tent to avoid distracting the operators. There was plenty to do on the site as in tidy the area and set up the kitchen and make plenty of tea and produce biscuits. A good fry was prepared later in the evening and the operator shift changed around that time. Comments about the difficulty of holding a frequency or getting over the high powered stations were noted. The actual number of stations worked seemed to be in keeping with other reports received although the obvious "big guns" were surging ahead. Neither 10 nor 15 seemed to come alive at the time although 15 at least had a few stations but they were insisting on receiving ages rather than a serial number (something only god, the tax-man and the bank manager know in my case). Another set of operators were looking for Asian stations. Occasional checks were made and a few minutes spent on working the stations evident on 15 metres but it was better to stick where the action was.

As darkness fell the action was more concentrated on 80 and 40 metres and a good

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

number of contacts were made on these bands. Occasional checks were made on 20 metres but it did start to fall off as the evening wore on. Gerry EI8DRB had to leave in the evening leaving 3 on site. The remaining operators rotated until around 0100. Enda and John continued operating until the early morning leaving Steve to sleep through until 0700. Things progressed slowly during the night and an awful lot of the stations on the band had been worked before. Every so often there would be a new one to be found. A few CQ calls also resulted in an occasional reply as well. Whatever happened the momentum had to be kept going as even an occasional contact was worth a few points.

At 0630, what a sight for sore eyes, one look at the two operators said it was obviously time for them to go for a good rest. They were still willing to continue but there was little point. 20 metres was beginning to open at this time but 40 and 80 were still reasonably open so an occasional sojourn to 20 occurred when there was no headway being made on the those bands. By about 0830, 20 metres had opened up and 80 metres was on the way out. There were a few G operators involved with nets but little else. This was hard going and the rest of the contest involved alternating between 20 and 40 metres until the end of the contest. Things seemed to pick up and then slow down and it was hard to know what the best strategy was.

At around mid-day there was a quick QSY up to the news. A bit of a break was needed at this time. The news was short on this occasion and when portable stations were called we gave our call. All EI signals were very strong on 80 me-

tres. Was it the nice location we had, maybe the "Windom" wasn't such a bad antenna after all. We got the report from Sean and moved up the band a little to work a few EI's before getting down to business again. A good opportunity anyway for a mug of tea and biscuits and a breather! Back to business again and we continued on with our last contact made a minute before the contest ended. What a relief!

A good fry up was enjoyed with plenty of tea before dismantling the operation. Strangely enough there was only >>ONE<< bottle of lager consumed by the group over the whole weekend. A subject for concern at the next meeting..

In conclusion, most of the operators were not used to fancy rigs with roofing filters, using more the filter between the ears. The Icom 706 was not a bad little rig to operate and it certainly withstood the bashing it got for the 24 hour duration. There was an 'RTFM' problem with the Super Duper Program and it is thought that the only way to learn is to have first hand knowledge. Maybe two more operators would have lightened the load a little. The antenna was as good as it gets for the restricted section and it is unlikely that another multi-band antenna would have performed any better.

The weather was with us on this occasion but it could have been worse! If somebody were to ask what the conditions were like we wouldn't have a clue – there were plenty of stations on the bands! DX wise we nearly got a Japanese station but we had not enough power although he did make every effort to pull us in without success. Although we have never really bothered with contesting in the past, this was really good fun and it is hard to understand why we never tried it before.

This could be the start of a new direction within the Galway VHF Group.

It is, at the end of the day, not about trying to win, but more about working together as a team, assembling a good station out doors and improving operating techniques.

The winning bit probably comes together if one gets all of the other bits right.

Steve EI5DD



Enda, EI3IS, operating with John EI1EM check-logging

WAI Activity on 80m



The re-launch of the Worked All Ireland Award Scheme was scheduled for Sunday September 26th last and as a result, there was a lot of WAI activity on 3.680MHz after the Nuacht as Gaeilge.

There were 2 mobile stations out making squares available. Declan EI9HQ/m was active in Co. Wicklow and Noel EI6HW/m was active in Co Westmeath and Co. Offaly.

Paddy EI7GK in Wicklow, who reads the Nuacht as Gaeilge, was net controller on the day.

Stations taking part were George GI4SRQ, in Co. Armagh, Mike EI2EO in Co. Galway, Peter EI4HX in Co. Louth, Eddie EI3FFB in Co. Tipperary, EI2LRC/p were activating Bunratty Castle in Co. Clare (Operator Dave), Jimmy EI8FC in Co Limerick, Brendan EI0CZ in Co. Clare and Rodney EI2KD in Donegal.

The net ran from midday for over three and a half hours.

All stations exchanged signal reports, WAI squares Counties and book numbers.

If you are equipped for 80 metres why not give a call on 3680 and get a bit of activity going.

Someone has to be the first to call!

The success of the scheme required mobile operators to be active and there were never so many amateurs suitably equipped to activate squares.

WAI Books are now available from Dave EI4BZ at QTHR costing €10.00 including postage.

We look forward to hearing lots of activity on 3680.

Change of 40m WAI Frequency

Please note that the 40m WAI Frequency has been changed from 7.068 to 7.170



Excerpt from the HX files

A Look at ATV with Pat Fitzpatrick EI2HX - Excerpt 012

Hello and welcome to extract 012 of the HX files.

D'oh.

Since the last HX files I was operating /P, I went to a site that was just over 15 km's line of sight from the QTH of Mark EI9FX. The location had a good take off and but it was down a lane that was not used often and was more or less a dirt track. I was brave because of the location, high and overlooking the area around Mark's QTH. I said to Mark that I would not be bringing the 1.2 GHz equipment and I would only bring the 10 GHz gear. (D'oh)



The aerial I used was a horn aerial, pictured above. The business end of the horn antenna is 20cms x 20cms with a total length of 50cms. I started to transmit to Mark, slowly panning across where I thought Mark was and then tilting the aerial for couple of passes but all to no avail,

Mark was not getting a thing from me. I guess I should have brought the 1.2GHz equipment with me to help me find Mark's location, so, if you know of a village in need of an idiot, you can E-mail me and let me know.

After awhile I decided to give up the trials for the night and even on the way home from that failed attempt, I was talking to Mark on 2m and I could not understand how we had such a bad outcome. The following day I decided to setup my 10GHz gear at home to see if I had a dodgy transmitter or a faulty connector, or lead.

I setup in the sitting room of my home, and hey presto the picture and sound were there on my screen, so I was @~!~*^#*) glad that I had a transmitter that worked.



Because I was operating so close to the receiver I could have easily pickup my transmission at any power level so I decided to use the power meter to check that I still had my 500mw's of tx power, or any milliwatts at all and I was relieved to see I had still got my full power .

Take 2.

One week later and here I was back at the scene of the failed attempt to try again. This time I decided to bring the 1.2GHz equipment .The first thing I did was to set up that equipment and then Mark and I could try and get each other on 1.2 GHz, and when we had that done we had an idea were our 10Ghz aerials were to point. We were only over 15km from each other and we will not be setting any records until we put a nought or two on the end of that figure.

Mark was using a 10w tx and a 35 element Tonna and I was using 15w and a 21element Tonna at first and then a Flash Gordon aerial later. (Pictured below).



With either of the aerials I used, both Mark and I could do no wrong; we could get each other with ease. In my case I was pointing the smaller aerial (the Flash Gordon one) at the Moon, Australia and even pointing it inside the car and Mark was still getting me .We were just about to start using the 10GHz equipment when we were joined on 145.400 by Tom EI9CJ who had heard us talking on 2m. Mark and I did a few test's on 1.2GHz with Tom with both of the aerials, first on 15 watts and then with 750mw and just like Mark, Tom could get me every bit as good .(Tom lives in Rockmarshall, Dundalk and was around 27Km's from me).

10 GHz.

Tom stayed on the radio monitoring our 2m feedback and then I started to transmit on 10 GHz to Mark. Using the horn aerial again and balancing the aerial using the top of the door to take most of the weight

and to hold it steady I started to transmit a signal and shock and horror after a few seconds Mark got my signal.

Success at last. (So what was wrong with last week's attempt, did someone knock a shed or open a window?

I was in the exact same spot from the week before, as it was the only spot where I could turn my car and not have to reverse about 2km to get back to an asphalt road.

While I was still transmitting, Mark decided to retransmit my 10GHz signal to Tom on 1.2GHz. Tom would be talking back on 2m and letting me know if my Armstrong rotator was drifting off Mark, because Mark was in another room away from his shack. He had the 10 GHz gear setup again in the east wing and he was using the audio he could hear from Tom telling me on the 2m rig to stop moving and then Mark would peak my signal and Tom would have a P5 (excellent) picture. I don't know what if anything was in the path between us the previous week but at least we were successful this time.

What's next?

The next thing Mark and I have to do is to use our 10GHz transmitters with our dishes and transmitters attached to our tripods, (picture below), and try from a couple of hill tops.

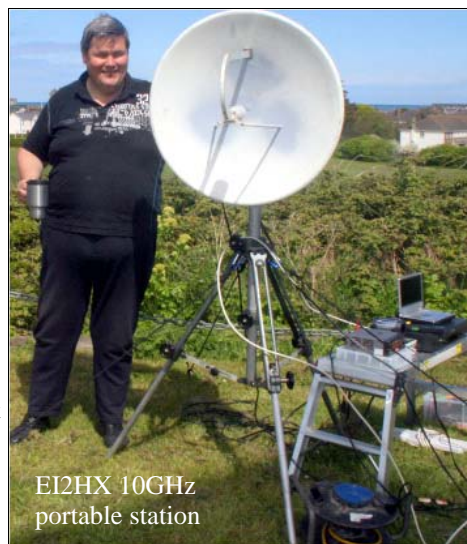
I will be bringing the 1.2GHz equipment with me for sure this time.

A lesson learned indeed, anyway that's it for another issue .

Thanks yet again to Thos EI2JD for the photo studio time.

As usual may your signals be P5.

73 de Pat.



EI2HX 10GHz portable station

The Worked EI Counties Award

Rules

- 1 The WEIC award, issued by the Irish Radio Transmitters Society, is available to licensed amateurs worldwide who have worked stations located in different counties of Ireland (EI/EJ). It is available to SWLs on a "heard" basis.
- 2 A claim for the WEIC Award must be accompanied by a **certified log extract** (see below), to include date, time, frequency, mode, station worked and its county.
- 3 Contacts made only on or after January 1st 1982 are valid.
- 4 There will be a charge of €5.00, Stg £5.00 or US\$10.00 for the award.
- 5 Band endorsements will be available at the time of first application.
- 6 A separate "All 26" sticker will be available for confirmation with all 26 counties.
- 7 For applicants in EI only:
All contacts must be made from the home station.
Contacts made via repeaters or while



operating mobile, portable or from an alternative address are not reckonable.

- 8 Requirements:
Work/hear 20 of the 26 EI/EJ Counties.

Certified log extract

The log extract should be certified as a correct extract from the claimant's log by an officer of a Radio Club or by two licensed radio amateurs.

The 26 EI Counties are:

Carlow	Cavan	Clare
Cork	Donegal	Dublin
Galway	Kerry	Kildare
Kilkenny	Laois	Leitrim
Limerick	Longford	Louth
Mayo	Meath	Monaghan
Offaly	Roscommon	Sligo
Tipperary	Waterford	Westmeath
Wexford	Wicklow	

Worked EI Counties Award Holders

DK4SY	Adolf H. Keppler	EI4DIB	Tony Allen	EI8W	Jim Gaffney	GI4SRQ	George McHugh
DK9MS	Markus Schafer	EI4EX	Hugh McCormack				
		EI4FV	Joe Dillon	G0FYX	Stuart Swain	GM3ITN	Les Hamilton
EA8SH	Felix H. Montelongo	EI4HE	Robert McGrogan	G0KJW	J. Eric Brown		
		EI4HX	Peter Grant	G0NSL/QRP	Brian Russell	GW3INW	Alan Davies
EI299	Peter J. MacDougall	EI4IJ	Martin Scanlon	G0NTH	Alan Gardner		
EI734	Noel J. Flynn	EI4IQ	Noel Clarke	G0ORO	Denis Martin	K4JEZ	Allan Fick
EI946	Pat Hutton	EI5CZB	Sean Butler	G0PLK	T.A.Kennedy	KE2FZ	Eugene Harrington
EI982/G	David Burt	EI5DD	Stephen C. Wright			KO3M	Anne M. Keiser
EI1045	James Bennett	EI5FQB	Clifford Beck	G1KDF	Bob Nixon		
EI1171	Robert Swinburne	EI6DA	Patrick Mooney	G3XWZ	Frank Clarke	VE3XN	Garry Hammond
EI1179	John McGann	EI6ETB	Warren Daly	G3YOG	Clifford Crook	W2EJG	Robert L. Brannigan
EI1233	John Doherty	EI6FM	Dermot O'Connell	G4CJY	Brian J. Payne	W2ORA	Joseph D. Duffin
		EI6GF	Michael McLoughlin	G4CPA	Geoff Manson	W3FM	Harry Burhans
EI2CH	Gerry Morgan	EI6HB	Denis O'Flynn	G4KXW	Don Redhead	W8CCY	John P. Lynch
EI2CL	Michael McNamara	EI6HW	Noel Mulvihill	G4ZMB	Don Sharples	WA0WOF	Kay Eyman
EI2EZ	Anthony J. Moore	EI7BFB	David D. Tobin	M0HEM	John O'Toole	WA1G	Bruce T. Marshall
EI2HY	Anthony O'Rourke	EI7FY	Patrick Geary			WA1KDL	Richard C. Bean
EI2IO	Barry Bridgeman	EI7GK	Pádraig Ó Meachair	G1516	Clifford A. Tooke	WB9KOY	Michael J. Murphy
EI3EBB	Alan Foley	EI7GL	John Desmond	RS 88763	Vincent Vallye	WX7M	Patrick A. Mulreany
EI3ES	Michael Mulhall	EI8EM	Alan Cronin				
EI3HA	Tony Casey	EI8HA	Jim Murphy	GI0PCU	David Waugh	ZC4DG	David G. Griffith
EI3IG	Michael E. Clarke	EI8HL	Bob Barry	GI4MJD	June Dunne		
EI4BZ	Dave Moore	EI8IU	Brian Canning	GI4PMP	Beverly McLoughlin	ONL 4003	Egbert Hertsen

Pakistan Flooding Appeal

Following the devastating floods in Pakistan this summer, the Pakistan Amateur Radio Society put out an appeal through the IARU Region 1 Emergency Coordinator for donations of equipment. They had already set up numerous repeaters throughout parts of the country to extend their existing network but the availability of radios, antennas and accessories were limiting their capacity to take some of the load from the broken landline and wireless telecommunication infrastructure.

PARS had formed a successful alliance with the Islamabad Jeep and were getting hams and equipment into difficult areas.

Conor EI4JN, Assistant National Coordinator with AREN responded and with the support of the IRTS, issued an appeal to EI amateurs through the weekly news service.

Regular communication with Asad Ullah Marwat of PARS ensured that equipment meeting the requirements was being sought.

The following was donated or purchased with donated monies:

Standard C156A 2m band HT with AA battery case, 2 sets AA rechargeable batteries and charger with 12V and 220V inputs.

THF6E with original battery, AA case, speaker, and protective case.

THD7E Dualband HT (c/w TNC and APRS) with speaker. Alinco DJ596 dualband handheld with 12V power cable and 220V charger. 6 off Watson 770HB dualband mobile antennas with 5" magnetic bases RF adapters so HTs can be used with antennas.

The following people or groups have contributed to this donation:

EI7IG

EI7HO

EI2KA

EI2CA

EI3AL

EI4JN

South East Communications

AC-DC Electronics

The Irish Radio Transmitter Society

The Amateur Radio Emergency Network (AREN)

Sensormatic Electronics Ireland Ltd.

The estimated value of the equipment and shipping was in excess of €1,000.00.

Conor EI4JN would like to thank all those who contributed to the donation.

For more information on the Pakistan Amateur Radio Society's work in the relief effort, visit www.pakhams.com

Dundalk Theory Classes and Live Morse Tuition

Anyone interested in attending Theory Classes at Dundalk Amateur Radio Society should contact Tony EI4DIB at ei4dib@ei7dar.com or via text to 086-4066660.

DAR has also begun live Morse tuition on Tuesday nights commencing at 2040 on 145.400 FM.

DAR have decided to use this frequency as it is used by a lot of hams and SWL's locally in the North East.

If the tuition nights a success DAR may eventually QSY to the Dundalk 2m repeater, giving national and international coverage with the repeater linked for live streaming on the internet.

The idea is to send some Morse at a slow and easy pace with good gaps between words. It is hoped to help those of you who are just starting out and those that want to sharpen up.

So please tune in to 145.400 with pen and paper at the ready.

More info is available on the DAR website at www.ei7dar.com

Good News on 500 kHz from the USA

The Federal Communications Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) -- the spectrum regulators for United States private sector and government users, respectively -- have agreed to support a secondary MF allocation to the Amateur Radio Service at 461-469 kHz and 471-478 kHz at the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12), to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from January 23-February 17, 2012.

FCC and NTIA officials formally presented the proposal at a meeting of the Second Permanent Consultative Committee (PCC.II) of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), held August 30-September 3 in Fortaleza, Brazil.

APRS email List

John EI7IG hosts an email list for any experimenters interested in APRS. This is a low-volume list and for further details please contact John Ronan, EI7IG 086-8167310.

Contest Calendar

All Times UTC

October 2010

30-31	Sat 0000 - Sun 2400	CQ WW DX Contest	SSB
30-31	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	ARRL EME Contest	

November 2010

6-7	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	Ukrainian DX Contest	
13-14	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	WAE DX Contest,	RTTY
13-14	Sat 0700 - Sun 1300	JIDX Phone Contest	
13-14	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	OK/OM DX Contest	CW
20-21	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	LZ DX Contest 1200Z	
20-21	Sat 1600 - 0700	All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	
20-21	Sat 2100 - Sun 0100	RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest	
27-28	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	CQ Worldwide DX Contest,	CW

December 2010

3 - 5	Fri 2200 - Sun 1600	ARRL 160 Meter Contest -	CW
4 - 5	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	ARRL International EME Competition -	All
4 - 5	Sat 1600 - Sun 1759	TOPS Activity Contest -	CW
11-12	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	ARRL 10 meter Contest -	CW/Phone
11-12	Sat 1600 - Sun 1559	International Naval Contest -	CW/SSB
12	Sun 0000 - 2359	SKCC Weekend Sprint -	CW
18	Sat 0000 - 2400	OK DX RTTY Contest -	RTTY
18	Sat 0000 - 2359	RAC Canada Winter Contest -	CW/Phone
18-19	Sat 1400 - Sun 1400	Croatian CW Contest -	CW
25-26	Sat 1500 - Sun 1500	Stew Perry Topband Distance Challenge -	CW



EI8IH

EI3ER



Missing from photo is Ronan EI8HJ

The EJ3Z group that took part in the 2010 IOTA CONTEST



EI2H

EJ3Z IOTA Contest 2010

Shannon Basin and Galway
Radio Experimenters Clubs
on Inishbofin Island



EI4CF



EI6GGB



EI9HX



EI7DMB

EI8EU

EI4CF

EI1EM

Burren Walk

AREN Operation 28th August

Galway VHF Group

The Burren walk traditionally takes place on the last Saturday of August each year. In its earlier years this event was run by the Thomond Orienteers and sadly was about to be wound up when the Galway VHF Group and the Galway Civil Defence decided to continue to run the event themselves.

The walk is a circular route from Fanore Beach car park onto a Green Road, towards Gleninagh and Black Head before a descending route to the finish at Fanore Beach car park.

There are six checkpoints manned by a radio operator and Civil Defence personnel. There are three circuits in this walk that offer a 27k, 24k and 14k loop designated the A, B, and C walks.

The operation is on 80 metres as this is the only suitable means of communication across mountainous terrain. Four of the six checkpoints can be operated from vehicles and the remaining two require a good portable set up which is light enough to carry over a long distance of some half an hour of a walk. Walkers were supplied with maps and directions and if all else failed they could ask the checkpoint operators to point them in the right direction.

The Galway VHF Group and Civil Defence met at 0830 in the Fanore Beach car-park. The registration area was in a large vehicle with slide doors on one side. In the meantime, Tom EI2GP placed direction signs along the route. A quick meeting was held to designate tasks, checkpoints and operations packs to the civil defence and respective radio personnel.

Registration commenced from 09:00 onwards and the first few walkers were underway by 9:30. At this point each team made their way to checkpoints. Accountability for walkers is essential so the logging aspect was of paramount importance.

At intervals a check-in to base occurred where the numbers were logged also. At times walkers would appear to go missing which was probably due to a delay whilst they had lunch.

Sure enough they would appear at their next point eventually.



John EI1EM, John EI7FAB, Tom EI2GP, Joe EI3IX Steve EI5DD



There was no excuse to get lost although many actually walked past signs as they were so busy soaking up the scenery.

The portable operators used FT817 transceivers with an output power of five watts PEP SSB into an MP1 mini-screwdriver antenna. This is a very lightweight kit easily transportable in a rucksack. Probably the heaviest part of this station would be the lead-acid gel battery. For a full day of activity a 7 AH battery is recommended. The internal battery pack is slightly short of 2 AH and seldom lasts for the full day.

The mobile operators used Pro-Am whips and sufficient power to enable good readability for the duration of the event.

Apart from the FT817 operators, the rest could get by on 10 watts with no difficulty.

One operator was using the Tarheel mobile screwdriver on his vehicle and that worked well also.

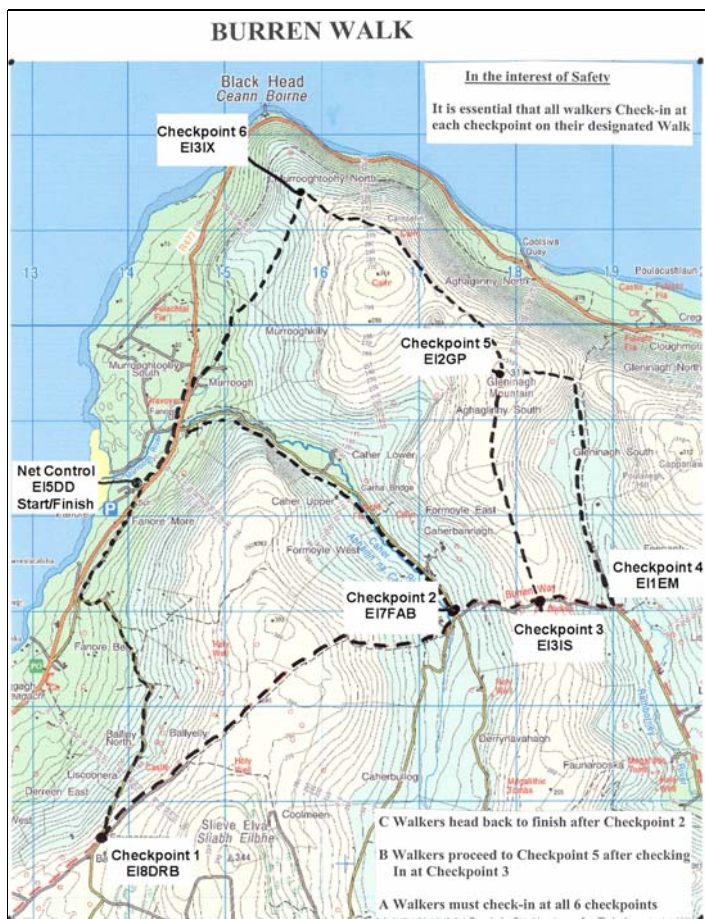
Net Control would periodically update each checkpoint with the numbers of walkers that had registered until the cut off point at mid-day. One or two were sneaked in after that time on the proviso that they would not delay in the early stages. Once all walkers were accounted for at a checkpoint, 20 minutes grace was given to allow for them to turn back otherwise it was assumed they were to continue. The checkpoint could then stand down. At times a walker would decide to transfer from a shorter walk to the longer walk in which case net control would be alerted by the checkpoint in question who would then appraise the following checkpoints of the walker's intentions.

Probably the most worrying point of the walk is the last two checkpoints where walkers occasionally manage to bypass a checkpoint and it is then not possible to account for them until they are reach next point or even the finish. This year there were only a few that managed to miss the vital point at checkpoint 5. As a precaution, another point was set up along the road to take numbers of walkers passing. Often walkers do not check in at the finish point.

By having the checkpoint on the road we were able to check that they were off the hills safely.

It is surprising how many people purposely make it their business to bypass checkpoints. We had told them at the start that any who did not check in would have the rescue services initiated on their behalf and that they would be liable for the bill afterwards. This year none bypassed the finish line!

At the end of the walk, the gear was stowed away and a final check of the site was made before leaving. All of those who participated were treated to a sumptuous feast and drink in Hyland's Hotel in Ballyvaughan as a reward for the day's work.



In conclusion our 80 metre links worked well despite the fact that a number of operators in the UK decided to establish a net on our frequency and then whine about the QRM from Irish stations.

The FT817s can only be described as a fantastic radio with their performance surpassing all expectations, although one has to bring an additional gel cell battery as the internal battery pack is not sufficient for a long day of operating. Would-be SOTA enthusiasts do take note!

The days operation was very smooth and uneventful, with only one walker eluding a checkpoint but was caught at the following one. The success of this operation is generally dictated by the long periods of silence that denotes all is well.

The end of walk accountability worked well and there were no excessive delays as everybody was checked in at the final checkpoints and the finish.

Special thanks to the following operators:

- Gerry EI8DRB Checkpoint 1 and the final check along the road section,
- John EI7FAB Checkpoint 2.
- Enda EI3IS at checkpoint 3.
- John EI1EM on checkpoint 4.
- Tom Rea EI2GP on checkpoint 5.
- Joe EI3IX on checkpoint 6.
- Steve EI5DD on registration and Net Control.

Special thanks to Civil Defence who provided First Aid cover and personnel to assist at the checkpoints.

Amateur Radio Licence Study Group

Michael EI2GKB is starting a study group in the Naas, Newbridge and Kildare area

For further details contact Michael on 087-2481970 or via email miklef@oceanfree.net

Mid-Ulster Amateur Radio Club visit Howth Radio Museum

Members of the Mid-Ulster Amateur Radio Club paid a visit by coach to the vintage radio museum in the Martello tower in Howth on Sunday 22 August. The trip was organised by Davy Gregg 2I0IRZ the club treasurer.

The large group was welcomed by Pat Herbert the curator along with local amateurs Andy EI4ERB, Bill EI8BC, Joe EI4FV and Joe Guilfoyle.

The craic was mighty and a good day was had by all.

The visitors QSYed for a meal and refreshments before returning northwards after a very enjoyable day in Howth.

The Mid-Ulster Club meets on the second Sunday of each month at the Browlow Resource Centre in Craigavon.

The club's website is www.muarc.com.

Any other clubs or groups would be most welcome to visit the vintage radio museum in Howth.

The museum web site is www.ei0mar.org and the email address is info@ei0mar.org

North Cork Radio Group

North Cork Radio Group wishes to thank everyone who attended their first annual rally on September 19th.

The rally was a great success and the support for the group shown was very much appreciated.

Raffle winners were:

- Steven O'Connell EI1275, Limerick
- Michéal O'Choimeáin SWL, Cork City
- J Sheehan, Mount Collins, Limerick

Special thanks to all the traders, IRTS and especially Garry of South East Communications for the raffle prizes.

Special thanks also to Liam EI7GTB for his hard work and planning for the event.

Church Broadcasts on 10m

Amateurs & SWL's are asked to please keep a listening watch on the 10m band and particularly around 28.265 FM as there have been incursions by churches on this frequency heard throughout Europe at up to 59 +20db.

Recently a Church in the Dublin area that was transmitting on 28.030 in the CW portion of the band was identified.

If you hear an illegal church transmission on the band, please listen carefully for any identifying information I.e. funeral arrangements etc.

Please send details of names etc used so we can try to identify locations and report them to ComReg for investigation.

Information can be sent to Ger McNamara EI4GXB who is the IRTS IARUMS coordinator at ei4gxb@gmail.com or by phone to 087-2532512.

World Radiosport Team Championships

Following a very successful WRTC based in the Moscow area last July, the next WRTC venue has been confirmed as being the New England area on the east coast of the United States in 2014.

The Words Radiosport Team Championships are based on the concept of a level playing field for all competitors thus ensuring that the best operators win. The competition is held in conjunction with the IARU HF Championships in July and is competed for by teams of two all located in the same geographical area.

The weakness (or strength, depending on your point of view) in the system is that the host country or organisation gets to generally decide the rules and qualification procedures.

In 1986, Ted Turner -- in reaction to the political troubles surrounding the Olympic Games of the 1980s -- created an international sports competition that he called the Goodwill Games. The first Games were held in Moscow with more than 3000 athletes from 79 countries competing. Four years later, the Games moved to Seattle, Washington and it was at those Games that the first-ever World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) happened.

Besides athletics, the Goodwill Games focused on areas of cultural exchange, arts and other unique subjects, one of these being Amateur Radio -- and WRTC was born. Radio amateurs from around the world gathered in Seattle for an Olympic-style event, joining in competition and camaraderie.

In 1996, WRTC moved to San Francisco, then Slovenia in 2000, Finland in 2002, Brazil in 2006 and Russia in 2010.

Unlike in previous WRTCs -- where established clubs or IARU Member-Societies were the sponsoring organization -- the 2014 event in the USA is led by two individuals: Doug Grant, K1DG, and Randy Thompson, K5ZD; a group of 10 directors and approximately 50 volunteers are also on the organizing committee.

Qualification will be based on results in the major contests and they start with the forthcoming 2010 CQWW events.



You can sign up and follow the action leading up to and during WRTC2014 by logging on to www.wrtc2014.org.

In the early days, operators were invited to take part and it was seen as pretty much a closed shop. However, the Russians introduced a contest result based system of qualification for the 2010 games and while not perfect, was a big improvement in opening up the event to the world contesting community. Hopefully, the New England organisers will take it a step further in their preparations.

It is very interesting to watch the debate on the rules on the WTRC reflector.

Previous WRTCs and top scorers were as follows:

Seattle, USA - 1990

- 1 K1AR - K1DG
- 2 W9RE - K7JA
- 3 KR0Y (N5TJ) - KQ2M

San Francisco, USA - 1996

- 1 KR0Y (N5TJ) - K1TO
- 2 K4BAI - KM9P (W4AN)
- 3 K6LL - N2IC

Bled, Slovenia - 2000

- 1 K1TO - N5TJ
- 2 RA3AUU - RV1AW
- 3 K1DG - K1AR

Helsinki, Finland - 2002

- 1 N5TJ - K1TO
- 2 RA3AUU - RV1AW
- 3 DL2CC - DL6FBL

Florianopolis, Brazil - 2006

- 1 VE3EJ - VE7ZO
- 2 N6MJ - N2NL
- 3 K1DG - N2NT

Moscow, Russia 2010

- 1 RW1AC/RA1AIP
- 2 ES5TV/ES2RR
- 3 N6MJ/KL9A

Note that K1TO and N5TJ won three in a row! Some achievement.

Dave EI4BZ

35th IPA - Radio Club Contest

The International Police Association Radio Club (IPARC) invites all radio-amateurs of the world to take part in the IPARC-Contest.

1. Modes and times:

CW Nov. 6th. 0600-1000 & 1400 - 1800 utc
SSB Nov. 7th. 0600 - 1000 & 1400 - 1800 utc

2. Bands: CW/SSB

80m	3510-3560 kHz	3700-3800 kHz
40m	7000-7025 kHz	7060-7100 khz,
		7130-7200 kHz
20m	14000-14060 kHz	14125-14300 kHz
15m	21000-21070 kHz	21155-21300 kHz
10m	28000-28070 kHz	28320-28600 kHz

After QSY you are obliged to stay 15 minutes on the new band.

There are no contest QSOs allowed outside the above-mentioned frequency ranges!

3. Categories:

- A** - Multi/Multi, Multi/Single, every club-station and special event station
B - Single Op/Single TRX (personal call-sign only, no assistance)

C - SWL

Remarks: No differentiation between members of IPARC and non-members.

The class must be seen from the log.

Winners are the first three in each class.

4. Calling: CQ IPA Contest

5. Exchange:

RS(T) + current number, each mode beginning with 001.

Members of IPARC in addition "IPA", IPARC-members of USA also their state.

Exchanging a report is allowed once on every band and in every mode.

Generally, it is allowed to operate only with one call-sign. Exchanging two reports with club-stations and in addition their operators is allowed for award hunting, but does count only once for the contest.

6. Points:

QSO-points: each QSO 1 point, each IPARC-station 5 points.

Multiplier: each DXCC with IPARC-station / US-State with IPARC-station 1 point on each band.

Score: each band: summary of QSO-points multiplied by summary of multi-points

Final result: summary of all bands

7. Closing date: 31st December 2010
(date as per postmark)

8. Contest Manager:

Uwe Greggersen, DJ6QQ, Hurststr. 9, 51645 Gummersbach, Germany
Email: [dj6qq\(at\)darc.de](mailto:dj6qq(at)darc.de)

9. Remarks: This contest is a good chance to work the Sherlock-Holmes-Awards and Sherlock-Holmes-Trophies. It is no longer required to work the awards step by step!

More information available from the award-manager:

Horst Roemer, DL1GBP, Theodor-Fontane-Str. 25, 17489 Greifswald, Germany
Email: [dl1gbp\(at\)t-online.de](mailto:dl1gbp(at)t-online.de)

Autumn 2 Metre Counties Contest



**James, junior op of Brian EI8IU
operating in the 2m Counties
Contest from Longford.**



**Joe EI7GY operating from the
Slieve Blooms**

**CQWW
SSB**

**40m
EI Record
Holder**

**Mark
EI6JK**



CQWW SSB EI Records

Several members have queried the EI record listings in the last Echo Ireland.

In the official CQ WW Contest record listings, they appeared to have missed the EI Low Power results for 2000.

Have a look at their web site for both the records and the 2000 results.

CQWW CW EI Records

Up to and Including 2009

Callsign	Score	QSOs	Zones	DXCC	Year
High Power					
All EI5DI	1,965,378	2,564	94	308	2008
10 EI6BT	198,128	838	31	91	2000
15 EI8GP	358,150	1,388	32	98	2000
20 EI3DP	525,968	1,715	36	106	1996
40 EI4BZ	197,912	1,131	23	81	2000
80 EI4BZ	142,870	1,140	18	83	2001
160 EI2CN	141,723	1,066	17	70	2008
Low Power					
LAll EI/SP4Z	1,610,690	2,321	105	365	2006
L10 EI5DI	238,784	1,087	25	66	1992
L15 EI6FR	246,848	1,171	32	101	1998
L20 EI6FR	264,537	1,035	29	104	1996
L40 EI6DX	111,100	967	20	81	2005
L80 EI6DX	110,732	900	16	78	2008
L160 EI7IU	31,507	482	11	50	1998
QRP					
All EI8FH	201,685	650	39	170	2009
Assisted (packet)					
A All EI6IZ	1,778,625	2,301	96	369	2009
A 10 EI6FR	370,678	1,269	36	118	1999
A 15 EI4CF	217,755	759	29	106	2009
A 20 EI8GP	142,044	602	26	88	1996
A40 EI6DX	524,914	2,066	39	130	2009
A80 EI6FR	150,490	1,223	16	85	2009
A 160 X					
MS EI7M	7,874,332	6,230	152	579	2005
MM X					

CQWW CW 2009 - EI Results

Call	Power	Band	Score	QSOs	Zones	DXCC
EI2CN	H	1.8	124,978	1,197	17	62
EI4II	L	All	16,424	522	48	150
EI5DI	L	A	55,836	245	31	68
EI4HQ	L	7	75,715	536	17	78
EI4JZ	L	7	2,730	93	6	36
Assisted						
EI6IZ		A	1,778,625	2,301	96	369
EI7CC		A	139,536	399	49	155
EI4GXB		A	12,033	78	25	38
EI4CF		21	217,755	759	29	106
EI9ES		14	4,575	89	8	17
EI6DX		7	524,914	2,066	39	130
EIØW (Op EI2JD)		7	261,072	1,429	32	115
EI6FR		3.5	150,490	1,223	16	85
QRP						
EI8FH	QRP	A	201,685	650	39	170

Islands on the Air 2010 Contest EI/GI Results (Provisional)

Position in Category	Call Sign	IOTA Ref	QTH	QSOs	Multipliers	Score
IOTA DXpedition, Multi-Operator, Mixed Mode, 24 Hour, Low Power						
10	EJ3Z	EU121	Inisbofin	1,102	179	1,309,206
13	EJ4II	EU103	Saltee Islands	1,253	159	1,047,969
15	EJ1DD	EU121	Clare Island	971	151	983,463
IOTA DXpedition, Single-Op Unassisted, Mixed Mode, 24 Hour, Low Power						
5	EI/DK2AT/P	EU115	Ireland	213	32	33,504
IOTA DXpedition, Single-Operator Unassisted, CW, 12 Hour, Low Power						
8	EI/OE3JAG	EU121	Ireland's Eye	340	14	18,648
IOTA DXpedition, Single-Operator Unassisted, SSB, 12 hour, Low Power						
9	EI/SQ7JT	EU007	Great Blasket	86	3	882
IOTA Fixed Multi-Operator, Mixed Mode, 24 Hour, Low Power						
5	MI0M	EU115	Ireland	1,011	125	617,625
6	GI0RQK	EU115	Ireland	1,235	85	415,905
8	GI4GTU	EU115	Ireland	531	100	332,100
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Assisted, CW, 24 Hour, High Power						
3	EI6KC	EU115	Ireland	1,358	121	754,314
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Assisted, SSB, 24 Hour, High Power						
2	EI6JK	EU115	Ireland	884	154	957,264
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Assisted, CW, 24 Hour, Low Power						
1	EI9ES	EU115	Ireland	46	15	4,770
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Assisted, SSB, 24 Hour, Low Power						
2	EI7JZ	EU115	Ireland	227	73	135,561
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Assisted, CW, 12 Hour, High Power						
7	GI4FUE	EU115	Ireland	92	25	14,100
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Assisted, CW, 12 Hour, Low Power						
2	EI2JD	EU115	Ireland	107	70	84,630
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Assisted, SSB, 12 Hour, Low Power						
3	GI4AAM	EU115	Ireland	172	61	87,108
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Unassisted, Mixed Mode, 24 Hour, High Power						
3	EI5DI	EU115	Ireland	1,445	182	1,422,330
7	EI7GY	EU115	Ireland	455	115	350,175
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Unassisted, CW, 24 Hour, Low Power						
17	GI4BQI	EU115	Ireland	53	20	8,460
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Unassisted, SSB, 24 Hour, Low Power						
5	EI2KA	EU115	Ireland	371	71	211,935
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Unassisted, SSB, 12 Hour, High Power						
13	EI4DJB	EU115	Ireland	137	46	52,578
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Unassisted, CW, 12 Hour, Low Power						
8	EI/W5GN	EU115	Ireland	553	46	116,058
21	GI4DOH	EU115	Ireland	343	27	37,179
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Unassisted, SSB, 12 Hour, Low Power						
7	EI5JQ/P	EU007	Great Blasket	172	57	78,660
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Assisted, Mixed Mode, 12 Hour, QRP						
2	EI8JB	EU115	Ireland	96	36	33,264
IOTA Fixed, Single-Operator Unassisted, CW, 12 Hour, QRP						
4	EI8FH	EU115	Ireland	62	23	11,730

Chilean Miners Rescue

As the last of the 33 miners who were trapped 2,300 feet deep inside the San Jos Mine -- located about 27 miles from the Chilean town of Copiap in the Atacama Desert -- rose to the surface at 0055 UTC on October 14th, the world cheered in unison.

The miners, who were underground for 69 days -- the longest time ever for miners to be trapped and survive -- all emerged relatively healthy.

Amateurs with the Radio Club Copiap, CE1CPI, provided communication support between the authorities and emergency equipment operators inside the San Jose Mine complex, as well as with family of the trapped miners in the complex and authorities in Copiap.

Read more here <<http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-operators-provide-communications-support-during-chilean-mine-rescue>>

ARRL News

Two Metres Autumn Counties Contest

The two metres counties contest, held on Sunday August 29th, was well supported as usual, with stations from most counties, north and south, on the air.

For a change, we had some good weather for the contest, which encouraged a number of stations to operate portable.

Among the portable operators heard on the day were Shannon Basin Radio Club operating from Longford and Mayo Radio Experimenters Network from a site in Mayo.

Other portable stations logged included Declan EI2GFB, Sean EI4IP, David EI7GEB and Joe EI7GY - Joe was on the Slieve Blooms in County Laois, his favourite portable QTH. David MI0VKO operated portable from County Fermanagh, a very welcome multiplier from a rare county!

Band conditions were relatively poor, with QSB requiring plenty of patience from the testers.

Japanese QSL Information

The Japan Amateur Radio League now provides the member search site at the following URL.

<https://www.jarl.com/jarlorjp/security/loginsrchuni.php>

There, you can search Japanese station call signs and find out whether you can send your QSL to the searched station via JARL QSL bureau or not.

80m Counties Contest June 2010 - Results

			QSO's	Cntys	Points	QTH
1. SSB Fixed						
1	EI9HX	Patrick O'Connor	40	15	2,085	ROS
2	EI7CD	Sean Nolan	33	16	2,064	DUB
3	EI5GHB	John Walsh	29	15	1,740	MAY
4	EI2KA	Tim McKnight	32	14	1,708	COR
5	EI4HX	Peter Grant	29	15	1,605	LOU
6	EI9FVB	Declan Horan	26	14	1,456	CLA
7	EI3GRB	Bob Muir	28	13	1,417	CLA
8	GI0OND	James Lappin	24	14	1,344	ARM
9	EI7CC	Peter Ball	25	13	1,300	DON
10	EI3ENB	Paul Norris	19	11	836	KLK
11	EI6GHB	John Satelle	16	11	704	MEA
12	EI2CL	MI. McNamara	14	11	616	DUB
2. SSB/CW Fixed						
1	EI4CF	Niall Foley	38	16	2336	GAL
2	EI2KC	Anthony Murphy	20	11	880	LOU
3. SSB Portable						
1	EI7MRE/P	Mayo R.E. Network	28	13	1,378	MAY
	EI9JA, EI9JS, EI2GCB					
4. SSB/CW Portable						
1	EI7GY/P	Joe Ryan	43	15	2,445	WIC
5. SWL						
1	EI1588	Shauna Baynes	40	12	1920	MAY
Check Logs						
	EI2JD	Thos Caffrey				LOU

Thanks to all who participated and congratulations to the winners.

Unfortunately band conditions were very poor for the contest. Band noise was very high and propagation conditions were very poor. In addition, the good summer weather, the World Cup and the US open provided alternative attractions leading to a small turnout of stations. A few stalwarts stuck it out for the full three hours and probably worked anyone participating in the contest.

CW Field Day 2010 - Results

Open Section		QSO's	Mults	Points	Score
EI5GM/P		147	42	463	19,446
Jeremy Sheehan					
Restricted Section					
EI0W/P	Dundalk ARS	1,068			500,310
EI2JD, EI2JK, EI6DX, EI6KC					
EI3Z/P	Shannon Basin	801	129	2505	323,145
EI2IU, EI4CF					
EI2SDR/P	South Dublin R.C.	749	124	2417	299,708
EI4HH, EI5DI, EI7GY					
Check Log					
EI5GN/P	Wicklow Town Radio Club				

4m Activity Night In the North East

Activity on the 4m (70 MHz) band is growing in the north east and Tony EI4DIB would like to suggest a 4m activity night which would start after the IRTS news on a Monday night, 8:30pm approx.

It is suggested that stations who have 4m should QSY to 145.400 MHz and 70.400 MHz (FM), after the news call ins on the DAR Repeater. Anybody wanting to do a test on 4m can call out on 2m to arrange a test. Do not worry if your 4m radio does not have 70.400 MHz as we can QSY to your frequency.

Limerick Radio Club

Limerick Radio Club have been issued with EI0A as a club contest & special events call. The history of this call goes back to the early sixties when it was originally issued to the club. QSL via EI4GXB

New Club Representative.

Brendan McNamara EI9GHB has been elected club rep to the IRTS. We wish Brendan the best of luck in his new role.

Bunratty Halloween Event.

The club have been invited back to Bunratty for Halloween on 23/24th October and will again be activating CASHOTA and WAI.

Japanese and Canadian Amateurs claim first 2200m JA-VE QSO

Kunikazu Togashi, JA7NI, in Daisen, Akita, Japan, and Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, of Vancouver, British Columbia, completed a transpacific QSO on 2200 meters (137 kHz) on September 28. Tilley called this a first between Canada and Japan. The distance between CN89dk (VE7TIL) and QM09fl (JA7NI) is 7162 km.

While not the DX record for 2200 meters, Tilley told the ARRL that the QSO comes in second to the distance achieved in 2004 by operators at the Wellington Amateur Radio Club Quartz Hill User Group, ZM2E, in New Zealand and Vladimir Burakov, UA0LE, in Vladivostok, Russia. Read more here <<http://www.arrl.org/news/first-2200-meter-ve-ja-qso-claimed>>.

Updates and enquiries to Thos EI2JD at thoscaffrey@hotmail.com

DXCC Confirmed		50	EI6GGB (+3)	40	EI7BA
218	EI7BA (+2)	49	EI2FSB	40	EI9FBB
174	EI3IO	47	EI8JW (+1)	40	EJ9FBB
171	EI4CF	46	EI/DK2AT (+4)	39	EI2JD
168	EI9FBB (+1)	46	EI1429	39	EI3IO (+2)
164	EI2JD	43	EI7IS	39	EI9HX
164	EI7CC	42	EI5IX	39	EI9JU (+1)
156	EI0CZ	41	EI3EBB	39	EI9O (+4)
150	EJ9FBB	41	EI4DIB	38	EI8GS
148	EI9HX	41	EI4IR	37	EI7JZ (New)
147	EI6IZ	39	EI0CPL	34	EI1DG
130	EI9JU	39	EI6IF	34	EI3GYB (+1)
129	EI9O (+24)	38	EI7GSB (New)	34	EI5IF
125	EI8GS	37	EI7GM	33	EI7CC
121	EI9FVB	34	EI1KARG	32	EI4BZ
117	EI1DG (+7)	34	EI3JB	32	EI4GNB
117	EI6HB	33	EI1571	32	EI6AL
116	EI7JN	32	EI90GPO	32	EI9FVB
115	EI3GYB	30	EI7CHB	31	EI5GM
110	EI6AL	28	EI4IN	31	EI6JK
109	EI5IF	28	EI5GB (+4)	31	EI8FH (+1)
107	EI8FH	27	EI3GDB	30	EI4GXB
104	EI4GXB	27	EI5HV (+5)	29	EI0W
104	EI8IU (+2)	26	EI7IW	28	EI4GMB
102	EI6JK	25	EI2FS	25	EI2GLB
102	EI9HQ	24	EI/G4DDL (+2)	22	EI2KC
101	EI4BZ	24	EI3FFB (New)	22	EI7JN
98	EI0W	24	EI8GNB (+2)	15	EI8JB
98	EI7JK	22	EI1NC	10	EI1429
92	EI7DAR	22	EI3GAB	10	EI4DIB
92	EJ9HQ	20	EI2IV	10	EI4IN
88	EI3HA	20	EI9KC (New)	8	EI7IW
88	EI4GNB	18	EI4HX	7	EI4HX
86	EI9ES			5	EI7CHB
82	EI2GLB	Worked All States			
81	EI5GM	50	EI4CF	Worked Prefixes	
79	EI2KC (+8)	50	EI8GS	1,255	EI4CF
79	EJ3HA	50	EI9FBB	1,105	EI2JD (+10)
79	EI4HH	50	EJ9FBB	953	EI7CC (+32)
79	EI7IX	50	EI9HX	932	EI8GS (+9)
78	EI5GJB	50	EI9JU	921	EI9FBB
77	EI5GUB	50	EI9O (+1)	866	EI7DAR (+49)
76	EI8IQ	49	EI9HQ	846	EI9HQ (+22)
76	EI8JR	49	EJ9HQ	821	EI0CZ (+36)
73	EI2II	48	EI6HB	818	EI3IO (+21)
73	EI8DL	47	EI2JD	817	EI6JK
72	EI4HQ	47	EI3IO	812	EI0W
71	EI3IS	47	EI7JN	721	EI7BA (+42)
71	EI9CF	45	EI0CZ (+2)	709	EI9JU
69	EI8GP	45	EI4BZ	695	EI4GXB (+41)
68	EI/DH0GSU/p	45	EI5GM	603	EI4BZ (+11)
66	EI7IM	45	EI7BA	599	EI9FVB (+12)
66	EI7JZ (New)	45	EI8GP	570	EI7JK (+27)
65	EI7M	43	EI0W	489	EI5IF
65	EI8DD	43	EI7DAR (+2)	473	EI4GNB
64	EI7BFB (+2)	41	EI4GNB	471	EI5GM (+38)
63	EI9FV (New)	41	EI5IF	444	EI8FH (+3)
62	EI5GSB	40	EI4GXB	440	EI9O (+42)
61	EI4IS	40	EI7CC	427	EI1DG (+27)
61	EI9JM	40	EI9HW	397	EI9JM (+1)
58	EI6IL	33	EI2KC (New)	375	EI8GP (+30)
56	EI8JB (+2)	32	EI6JK	361	EI8IU (+23)
58	EI9JF	31	EI4GMB	342	EI8JB (+28)
57	EI8JK	30	EI9ES	339	EI2KC (+138)
56	EI6ARB (+3)	29	EI9FVB	288	EI3HA (+1)
56	EI7BMB	26	EI6AL	237	EI2GLB
55	EI5HE	26	EI9JM	213	EI7JN
55	EI6CPB	15	EI8JB	200	EI4GMB
54	EI7IQ	13	EI2GLB	93	EI4DIB
54	EI7GSB (+8)	7	EI4DIB	75	EI1429
52	EI9EW (+2)			58	EI7IW
53	EI5EV (New)	Worked All Zones			
52	EI4GMB	40	EI0CZ (+1)	51	EI4IN
50	EI6AK	40	EI4CF	41	EI7CHB
				35	EI4HX

EI DXCC Listings (13/10/10)

DXCC Challenge			
2,226 EI7BA (+58)			
1,933 EI9FBB (+81)			
1,699 EI3IO	318 EI6FR	167 EI3IO	
1,582 EI7CC	301 EI7BA	152 EI2JD	
1,384 EI6FR	300 EI8AU	149 EI6FR	
1,144 EI2JD	286 EI3GV	143 EI6IZ	
1,086 EI6IZ	284 EI9FBB	129 EI4BZ	
1,026 EI9JF	264 EI4GK	117 EI7GL	
	249 EI8GS		
	242 EI2JD	30m	
	226 EI9FVB	256 EI7BA (+6)	
	225 EI9JF	215 EI3IO	
DXCC Honor Roll	213 EI7GL	201 EI9FBB (+10)	
	200 EI6IL	167 EI9JF	
Mixed	188 EI2CH	152 EI6IZ	
338 EI6FR/341	186 EI7II	145 EI6FR	
335 EI2GS/340	177 EI9FE	110 EI4BZ	
335 EI6S/351	167 EI4BZ		
335 EI7CC/347	162 EI4HH	20m	
332 EI7BA/334	152 EI8IU	303 EI7BA (+6)	
331 EI8H/356	129 EI9HQ	287 EI6FR	
	114 EI4EX	280 EI9FBB (+2)	
	108 EI6HB	243 EI3IO	
Phone	105 EI1CS	217 EI9JF	
334 EI6S/348	105 EI9HX	193 EI2JD	
333 EI2GS/338	101 EI3IP	177 EI8GS	
333 EI7CC/345		170 EI4BZ	
329 EI8EM/334		165 EI6IZ	
		139 EI9FVB (+22)	
		115 EI3GV	
Mixed	CW	105 EI9HQ	
356 EI8H	318 EI7BA		
351 EI6S	316 EI7CC	17m	
347 EI7CC	274 EI6FR	290 EI7BA (+8)	
341 EI6FR	267 EI9FBB(+8)	249 EI9FBB (+8)	
340 EI2GS	253 EI9JF	164 EI6FR	
334 EI7BA	230 EI6IZ	146 EI9JF	
321 EI3IO	229 EI4BZ	123 EI6IZ	
306 EI2HY	208 EI2JD	107 EI3IO	
301 EI9FBB (+1)	160 EI8IU	103 EI2JD	
287 EI9JF	155 EI1DG (+1)		
269 EI2CR	122 EI5GM	15m	
262 EI2GX	119 EI7GY	258 EI7BA (+4)	
262 EI2JD	109 EI2IH	229 EI9FBB (+5)	
255 EI5GM	109 EI4HM	221 EI6FR	
253 EI9O	107 EI/GM4ARJ	188 EI3IO	
249 EI8GS	100 EI6AL	171 EI4BZ	
246 EI6IZ		165 EI8GS	
240 EI4BZ	RTTY/Digital	148 EI2JD	
226 EI9FVB	153 EI1DG	124 EI9FVB	
211 EI8IU	127 EI7BA (+11)	119 EI6IZ	
210 EI6IL	126 EI6FR	109 EI3GV	
194 EI1DG	102 EI6HB	105 EI9JF	
170 EI4HH	Satellite - No Entry		
152 EI6HB	160m	12m	
140 EI4GXB	195 EI3IO	190 EI7BA (+10)	
134 EI9HQ	189 EI7BA (+1)	172 EI9FBB (+14)	
133 EI7GY	113 EI9FBB (+5)		
129 EI5GUB	110 EI6IZ	10m	
128 EI8HA		250 EI3IO	
117 EI3HA	80m	204 EI7BA (+7)	
111 EI5IF	304 EI6S	157 EI9FBB (+18)	
103 EI6AL	232 EI7BA (+2)	156 EI4BZ	
102 EI2GLB	206 EI9FBB (+1)	154 EI6FR	
101 EI7JQ	126 EI3IO	144 EI7GL	
100 EI4HQ	124 EI2JD	144 EI8GS	
	110 EI4BZ	134 EI2JD	
	108 EI6FR	128 EI4GK	
	104 EI6IZ		
Phone	40m	6m	
348 EI6S	263 EI7BA (+4)	157 EI3IO	
345 EI7CC	214 EI9FBB (+5)	111 EI7GL	
338 EI2GS	177 EI9JF	102 EI9FBB (New)	
334 EI8EM		101 EI3EBB	
331 EI8AR			

DXCC Band Status (13/10/10)											
		160m	80m	40m	30m	20m	17m	15m	12m	10m	6m
10	EI9FBB										
9	EI3IO										
9	EI7BA										
7	EI6FR										
7	EI6IZ										
6	EI2JD										
6	EI4BZ										
5	EI9JF										
3	EI7GL										
3	EI8GS										
2	EI3GV										
2	EI9FVB										
1	EI3EBB										
1	EI4GK										
1	EI6S										
1	EI9HQ										

Members Advertisements

For Sale:

Force 12 C3 six element Yagi on 20, 15 and 10m with 12 and 17m with a tuner.
In excellent condition. Price €400.00
Contact Grahame EI3JS on 086-7742772

For Sale

Icom 706MkIIG HF/VHF 100W Transceiver €600.00
MFJ portable ATU €50.00
Decca KW 108 Monitorscope €50.00
Hustler mobile antenna 40,20,15 10m, €40.00
Cushcraft X7 10/15/20m beam. €600.00
All equipment in very good condition.
Contact Brendan EI4BB 087-2508651

For Sale

Hansen automatic SWR & peak reading power meter
50-150 MHz. 20-200w Model No. APM-1V
Boxed with instructions/schematic diagram
Contact Mick EI5DCB 086-0693873

For Sale:

Yaesu FT857D Compact HF/VHF/UHF TX €500.00
Yaesu FT1802M/E VHF FM Tx with Speaker
and Mobile Whip €150.00
MFJ Versa Tuner II 300w €150.00
Maplin Regulated DC Power Supply MX19V €80.00
Contact Sean EI4GK at 01-2821420

Radio News Deadline

Noon on Thursdays

Input to charlie.carolan@gmail.com
or newsteam@irts.ie
or by phone to: 087-6265418

Bangor and District Amateur Radio Society

Meet at 2000 on the 1st Thursday of every month in
"The Boathouse", Groomsport.

Annual Surplus Sale 2000 on Thursday 4th November

See website for location map.
Visitors and new members are always most welcome.
More information from Mike GI4XSF on 028 42772383,
or club website :<http://www.bdars.com>

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Dr. Hamadoun Tour, HB9EHT, of Mali, re-elected as ITU Secretary-General.

On October 7th during the morning session of the 18th ITU Plenipotentiary Conference -- held in Guadalajara, Mexico -- member states of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) re-elected Dr. Hamadoun Tour, HB9EHT, of Mali, as ITU Secretary-General.

This will be his second four-year term. Dr Tour, who ran unopposed, won the position with 151 votes, with 157 countries present and voting.

The next day, Francois Rancy of France was elected as Director of the ITU's Radiocommunication Bureau <<http://www.itu.int/plenipotentiary/2010/elections/results/index.html#br>> (BR), capturing 90 of 157 votes.

The BR plays a key role in global communications, managing the distribution of international frequency spectrum and the allocation of satellite orbits.

According to the ITU, Rancy will face several challenges, including WRC-12. The conference will tackle issues that include a review of the international framework for radiocommunication (including Amateur Radio), the identification of appropriate mechanisms to address what the ITU called "the so-called digital dividend of radio spectrum" freed up by the switch to digital TV and the identification of spectrum resources for maritime, aeronautical, meteorological and climatology.

Read more here <<http://www.arrrl.org/news/itu-secretary-general-deputy-secretary-general-elected-today-by-plenipotentiary-conference>>.

Source - ARRL News

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Annual Rally

Sunday November 21st

**The Welcome Inn,
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Doors open 1100

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by rally director, Padraic Baynes, EI9JA

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Email: pbaynes1@eircom.net

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**Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club
Annual Rally
The Share Holiday Village,
Lisnaskea, County Fermanagh
BT92 0EQ**

Sunday 17th April 2011

Bring & Buy, Caravan Park, access from Lough Erne/
Shannon Waterway
Food and parking on site

Doors open 1130

Further details from Iain: 028 66326693 iain@learc.eu
<http://www.lougherneradioclub.co.uk/>



**Foyle & District ARC
Annual Radio Rally**

**Sunday 7th November 2010
doors open 11.30am**

**Best Western White Horse Hotel
68 Clooney Road,
Derry BT47 3PA**

Traders attending...

Bring & Buy; JBT Trading; Steven Boyd (Second user radios);
P & D Amateur Radio Supplies. T A Electronics; NIE Wire An-
tennas; The Green Man; RSGB book stall and Bureau
W T Repeater group; N W Model Aircraft Club

Raffle prizes on the day

1st prize - Wouxon KG-UVD1P Dual band H/H
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2nd Prize - 20 metre Dipole
Sponsored by NIE Wire Antennas

3rd Prize - 40 metre Dipole
Sponsored by NIE Wire Antennas

Further details are available at... www.mn0aku.co.uk
Equiries please to gi7fjy@hotmail.com or via the above site



**2011 IRTS
Annual General Meeting**

**Will be hosted by
Limerick Radio Club**

Full details shortly



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Used: Realistic 2035 Receiver/
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AM/FM/WFM



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FT-100D. £345.00
HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver
Used - Good condition

UBC-785XLT £175.00
Used: UBC-785XLT with PSU and
manual. Frequency range:
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1.6MHz to 30MHz * Power input 3 - 200W
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